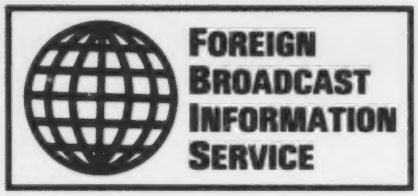

Daily Report

Latin America

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EC, ACP Quarrel Over Directorship of CDI

FL1604162290 Bridgetown CANA in English 2222 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, April 15, CANA—There is a quarrel among the African, Caribbean, and Pacific States [ACP] and between the ACP and the European Community [EC] over the directorship of a development agency set up under the Lome Trade and Aid Agreement. The Europeans hold that the directorship of the Centre for the Development of Industry (CDI) now held by the ACP should move to the EEC.

"The ACP argues, however, that the directorship having been held for two consecutive periods by the EEC, that it should be held for two consecutive terms by the ACP on the basis of equality," a Caribbean Community (Caricom) spokesman, Charles Savarin told CANA radio on Monday.

He said the argument has not been resolved since the EEC is firmly of the view that they should name the director for the first five years of the Fourth Lome Agreement and the ACP is equally of the view that the ACP should name the director. Savarin, Dominica's ambassador to Brussels, says the Africans who dominate the 68-member ACP are pushing to control the CDI.

"What appears to be emerging is that there is a feeling being developed within the ACP that the region that has the largest number of states—that is Africa with 44—is playing the numbers game and not paying sufficient attention to the question of equity among the regions of the ACP so as to maintain a balance," he stated.

"On that basis any question of voting would make the Caribbean and Pacific irrelevant because at the moment two thirds of the numbers of the ACP come from Africa and of the remaining one third, there are 15 Caribbean states and eight Pacific states."

Savarin said the ACP is "as it were, lopsidedly on a numbers basis in favour of Africa" who could out-vote the other members "at any time, on any matter in sufficient number to have a purely African decision process established."

He says that the matter has tremendous implications for Lome and goes beyond the mere question of the directorship of the Centre. The CDI promotes joint venture industrial enterprises between European investors and ACP industrialists and provides technical assistance to ACP businesses.

Cuba

Tests of Systems for Jamming Radio Marti Begin

FL1704115590 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1012 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Information to the people:

A testing period has begun for the systems aimed at jamming U.S. Government anti-Cuban radio stations. In compliance with the agreement reached on 27 December 1989 by the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], which ratifies the plans and measures prepared by the organizations of the Central State Administration relating to telecommunications, information, defense, and security of the country—aimed at preventing television signals from entering the national radioelectric spectrum and providing us with the sufficient ability to respond so such aggression does not take place with impunity—a testing period of radio-neutralization systems began this morning before dawn.

In this testing period, the jamming systems will operate on the 1180 kHz medium-wave frequency. Cuban authorities have control over the administration of this frequency as established by international regulations. Exercising the same rights, this frequency was assigned in 1950 through the international distribution of frequencies agreed upon then for U.S. domestic broadcasts.

In 1962, it was arbitrarily assigned by the U.S. Government for its radio propaganda services in Spanish beamed abroad. This is, in short, the origin of the dispute between Cuba and the United States regarding that frequency when they encroached upon the medium-wave channel in our country. In this way was established the precedent for using that channel, supposedly assigned for domestic transmissions, for government transmissions beamed abroad.

In 1985, the U.S. Administration took an even more arbitrary, provocative, and aggressive step by turning this facility over for the start of operations of a Voice of the United States service aimed exclusively against Cuba which has virtually turned into one of the most powerful medium-wave stations in that country, with a power of 50,000 watts, allowing it to reach the entire Cuban national territory. The transmissions are broadcast 24 hours a day. It has an annual budget of over $11 million and correspondents in over 50 countries. This is how the so-called Radio Marti surfaced, supposedly obliged to operate under the legal rules approved for the Voice of America.

Every day, the contents of the transmissions have deviated considerably from the compliance, although only formally, of such rules and of all professional ethics, and has turned into an instrument of psychological warfare and desinformation. Its sponsors boast without the least scruple, that the goal of such transmissions is to overthrow the Cuban revolution. This purpose is not shared by all the professionals of the U.S. propaganda agency and it has started not a few internal disputes.

A scandalous purging process has taken place lately. It was also made evident that this station was being used to favor the political aspirations and other personal purposes of notorious counterrevolutionary leaders who settled in the United States.

[Text] The Cuban Government, considering that the United States was attempting to take the country's leadership away from the battle against the foreign debt, opted at the time not to interfere with those transmissions. At the same time, it in turn reaffirmed the right our state has to beam medium-wave radio broadcasts toward the entire U.S. territory.

The Ronald Reagan administration openly acknowledged our right. Consequently, detailed official negotiations took place. They were delayed by the United States' alleging unanticipated technicalities. The Cuban Government has records of those meetings. These incomplete talks left the so-called Radio Marti problem unsolved.

In fact, U.S. radio transmissions toward Cuba constitute a unilateral action of the U.S. Government, which appears to have the intention of creating a situation forcing our country to bear discriminatory treatment. Evidently, this perception caused the Bush administration to make an erroneous evaluation when it decided to expand and escalate this anti-Cuban propaganda section to television. It did not stop, regardless of the legal obstacles clearly posed by international law on the subject.

in consideration of these reasons and of the fait accompli for almost five years during which the United States has been conducting radio broadcasts against our country without in the least considering the possibility of Cuba exerting its right of reciprocity, a testing period has begun. Its first stage will only include Havana's territory between 0145 and 0645.

With this decision, which exclusively involves part of the national territory, our country is preparing to create conditions to fulfill the ANPP mandate regarding U.S. radiophonic libel.

Castro, Abalkin Tour Economic Facilities

FL1604173790 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1149 GMT 16 Apr 90

["Special report" during the "Revista de la Manana" program—italicized passages are recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro has accompanied Leonid Abalkin, deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers, during a tour of the supertanker base in Matanzas Bay, the land causeway of the Cardenas City coastal area, and some hotel facilities, which are being built in Varadero.

Luis Alvarez dela Nuez, alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of PCC in Matanzas Province, welcomed the visitors upon their arrival in Matanzas.

At the supertanker base, Eduardo Russinyol, chief of the base for the Ministry of Basic Industry, explained the importance of the facilities and their current operations as far as the construction of the minimum starting complex [complejo minimo de arranque] is concerned. The construction of this complex should be completed by next December.

While touring said facilities, Carlos Capote, chief of the fourth PCC Congress Contigent, which is building the complex, provided Castro and Abalkin with details regarding the increased productivity and the reduction of expenses the contingent has attained.

Subsequently, Castro and Abalkin toured the main pier of the deep-water dock, where the Soviet leader inspected the facilities' security.

On their way to the oil fields, Fidel and Albakin made a stopover at the Juan Gualberto Gomez International Airport in Varadero, where they were greeted by employees of this modern terminal and by many Canadian and other tourists who where at the airport.

[Castro] *You do have a big airport for the landing of big planes, now eh? [words indistinct as several people, including Castro, speak at the same time]*

[Unidentified speaker] *[Words indistinct] some limitations.*

[Castro] *You have to increase that, then. [Words indistinct] How many?*

[Unidentified speaker] *We have planned to do that during the second phase. [words indistinct as several people speak at the same time]*

[Castro] *Why did you not build all that right away? [Words indistinct of several people speak at the same time] we should have done that already.*

Upon his arrival at the coastal land causeway of Cardenas Bay, both leaders visited a camp for two oil-workers contingents. The contingents are working in the first bases for sea oil drilling. The bases have been set up in various islets located in that artificial peninsula.

Fidel talked with the camp's cook, expressed interest in the quality of the food given to the camp residents, and showed the Soviet visitor around including the recreation room and other parts of these workers' facilities, which have increased oil workers' productivity and efficiency.

Rodolfo Martinez, director of the Central Oil Drilling and Extraction Enterprise, gave details of the characteristic of the area. Martinez also said that thanks to the land causeways, the workers have made rapid progress in the prospecting and perforation work in the last five years.

[Castro] *When did we start with this workers' camp system? One year ago, right?*

[Unidentified speaker] *Barely one year ago. We started early last year, commander.*

[Castro] *We had to get the wood for them to build these facilities. We had to get the air conditioners. It was an amazing change. They live right next to the machines. In this other section, they are not right next to the machines, because the machines are located in one of the land causeways. This is more or less the idea and I have allowed the idea of the land causeways to prosper. This idea came from the tourist enterprise, from the tourist enterprise [repeats himself]. The idea appeared when we decided to connect the mainland with the keys, which have beautiful beaches. We realized that we could build those land causeways and that it was inexpensive to do so. We are now filling this whole place up with land causeways.*

Subsequently, the visitors headed toward the Varadero Tourist Enterprise, where they were informed about the current hotel construction situation. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Osmani Cienfuegos, members of the PCC Politburo, also accompanied the visitors during the tour in Varadero.

During the visit to Las Palmeras and Paradiso Hotels, Fidel talked with some of the workers and investors of the corporation.

[Unidentified speaker] *She is the chief of the hotel services.*

[Castro] *What is it that do you do here?*

[Unidentified hotel worker] *I am in charge of all the hotel services including the bar and the restaurant.*

[Castro] *Where did you learn to do this?*

[Hotel worker] *I studied at the University of [word indistinct] in Bulgaria. I studied there for five years. I was there between 1979 and 1984.*

[Castro] *What did you study there?*

[Hotel worker] *I have a bachelor's degree in tourism geography.*

[Castro] *Tourism geography? So this is your field, but what does tourism geography have to do with hotel services?*

[Hotel worker] *When I was assigned to this area, I was trained in this field here in Varadero.*

[Castro] *What time do you go to bed?*

[Hotel worker] *Do you mean on my days off or during work days?*

[Castro] *I mean your usual time to go to bed.*

[Hotel worker] *Between 2300 and midnight.*

[Castro] *At what time do you get up?*

[Hotel worker] *At 0600.*

[Castro] *How many hours of work do you put in here?*

[Hotel worker] *Between 12 and 13 hours.*

[Castro] *Or 14?*

[Hotel worker] *Or 14, right.*

[Castro] *Are you very energetic?*

[Hotel worker] *Yes, very much so.*

[Castro] *Do you move around fast, or are you too heavy?*

[Hotel worker] *No, no, I move fast.*

[Castro] *You move fast. What part of Cuba do you come from?*

[Hotel worker] *From Havana.*

[Castro] *Since when are Havana people very energetic? Where are your parents from?*

[Hotel worker] *From the eastern part of Cuba.*

[Castro] *Oh! There you go! Tell me Iris, how many languages do you speak?*

[Hotel worker] *I speak Bulgarian and English.*

[Castro] *Bulgarian and English. But in which one are you more fluent?*

[Hotel worker] *And Spanish. I am more fluent in Bulgarian.*

[Castro] *What do you do if a German tourist comes here? You speak English, right? [Words indistinct] At least it serves you to communicate. Are you studying any other language?*

[Hotel worker] *I plan to learn German.*

[Castro] *When?*

[Hotel worker] *The hotel is planning to teach German this year.*

[Castro] *Do you think you can defeat all obstacles here? What will you do with 500 people here asking for different things?*

[Hotel worker] *Well, Commander, we have had that many people here before. Yes, I worked at the International Hotel for nine months and at the Bella Mar Hotel. We took care of approximately 700 tourists. We had approximately 500 guests at the Bella Mar Hotel and 200 at the Bar Azul Hotel.*

[Castro] *You are chief of how many things here?*

[Unidentified speaker] *Of the bar, cafeteria, restaurant.*

[Castro] *What is the minimum school education of your employees here?*

[Hotel worker] *The least educated ones have completed high school.*

[Castro] *High school, I see. How many professionals do you have here?*

[Hotel worker] *We have about 13 workers.*

[Castro] *That is good. I wish you success.*

Abalkin Tours Nickel Plant Construction Site

FL1704022290 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2331 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Report by Alexis Triana from the "Exclusivo" program]

[Text] Leonid Abalkin, deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers, and the high-ranking delegation that is accompanying him in Cuba today heard at this end of the island about the efforts and investments being made by Moa workers and technicians to increase the production of nickel, which is a strong export product in high demand on the world market. This morning Abalkin toured the Quemado del Negro works and observed the efforts of the Hermanos Martinez Tamayo Contingent, which is building what will be the fourth Cuban nickel plant.

This contingent has succeeded in tripling productivity compared to the productivity on this project before the contingent was created. It has also exceeded the construction plan for assembly for the first time. Alexis Mejia, chief of the Martinez Tamayo Contingent, told the vice chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers that the Las Camariocas nickel plant is 32 percent completed, while important labor marks were obtained in this past quarter, reaffirming that the mistakes that occurred in the construction of the Commander Che Guevara nickel plant will not be made this time.

Another center visited was the Commander Che Guevara nickel plant, located in the Punta Gorda area; it is a result of Cuban-Soviet cooperation. Leonid Abalkin was briefed about the technical and productive status of this project, which has not yet reached its design capacity of 30,000 tons of nickel; the construction force is still working on some projects.

Later, the deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers toured the factory that symbolizes Moa, the Pedro Soto Alba plant, the same nickel plant the Americans abandoned, convinced that it could not be operated without them. Its industrial efficiency today is greater than its capacity as designed by the Americans.

I would only like to add as a final note that Leonid Abalkin arrived in Moa on a special flight with Soviet

Ambassador to Cuba Yuriy Petrov. They were accompanied on the Cuban side by Leonel Soto, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers; Cuban Ambassador to the USSR Jose Ramon Balaguer; and Minister of Basic Industry Marcos Portal.

I would also like to add as an exclusive item that the 14th meeting of the coordinating commission for the progress of construction of the Las Camariocas nickel plant began today in Moa. Delegates from Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Romania, and the USSR are participating. The final construction schedule for what will be the fourth nickel plant in Cuba will be decided at this meeting.

Soviet Foreign Ministry Delegation Visits Havana

FL1704015190 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] The Cuban Ministry of Foreign Relations reported today that a Soviet delegation led by Deputy Minister of Foreign Relations Viktor Komplektov visited our country from 14 to 16 April. During his stay in Cuba, the Soviet deputy minister was received by Comrade Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers. The official of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Relations also met with Cuban Foreign Minister Comrade Isidoro Malmierca.

During the course of his visit, Comrade Komplektov held talks in the Ministry of Foreign Relations which were led on the Cuban side by First Vice Minister Comrade Jose Raul Viera Linares. Issues concerning bilateral relations between our countries, the state of East-West relations, the situation in Central America, and the radioelectronic attack on our country were discussed in these talks. These talks took place in a fraternal and friendly climate, as is typical of the relations between our two countries.

Castro Meets With Uruguayan Senator Araujo

FL1604150190 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] On 13 April, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro met with comrade Jose German Araujo, Uruguayan senator for the leftist coalition Broad Front of Uruguay and secretary general of the Amplista Front [Frente Amplista].

During the meeting, Castro and Araujo exchanged viewpoints about world affairs and particularly about Latin America and the current Uruguayan situation .

Comrade Araujo reiterated his feelings of solidarity and friendship with the Cuban people and revolution especially during the current circumstances in which Cuba is facing the aggressive U.S. imperialist policy.

Castro Meets With Puerto Rican Party Leader

FL1604151190 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] On Saturday, 14 April, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz met with comrade Ruben Berrios Martinez, president of the Puerto Rican Independence Party.

During the meeting, Castro and Berrios examined the prospects of fraternal Puerto Rico's struggle for independence in light of the possible holding of a plebiscite regarding Puerto Rico's political future.

Berrios talked about the current U.S. Congress political discussions regarding the plebiscite in Puerto Rico and particularly about the crisis in the colonial relationship between Puerto Rico and the United States, which has made the failure of colonialism and annexationism obvious.

Similarly, Fidel Castro viewed the Puerto Rican situation within the new world and Latin American reality. Castro once again reiterated the Cuban people's historic commitment to Puerto Rican independence.

Fernando Martin, Puerto Rican senator and vice president of the Puerto Rican Independence Party, also participated in the meeting.

Raul Castro Attends Militia Man Day Ceremony

FL1704123290

[Editorial report] Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1159 GMT on 16 April begins a live broadcast of a ceremony held to commemorate the day of the Cuban militia man and the 29th anniversary of the socialist character of the Cuban revolution at the Camilo Cienfuegos Artillery School of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] in Havana. The ceremony is presided over by Raul Castro, second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee Politburo and minister of the FAR. Raul Castro is accompanied by Culture Minister Armando Hart; Jorge Lezcano, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee of the City of Havana Province; Vilma Espin, member of the PCC Politburo and member of the Cuban Council of State; foreign diplomats—including Spanish, Mexican, and Soviet ambassadors to Cuba—media representatives; leaders of the Union of Young Communists; and representatives of mass organizations, among others.

The ceremony begins with wide-angle shots of approximately 1,000 troops in military formation while a marching band is heard in the background. At 1205 GMT, Colonel Benanzio Avila, chief of the troops of militia men, reviews the troops on board a military jeep.

At 1207 GMT, Minister Raul Castro—on behalf of President Fidel Castro—presents the Ministry of Higher Education with a document declaring the Ministry of Higher Education as "prepared and ready for the defense of the fatherland in the first phase."

Later, an unidentified Army officer reads an order issued and signed by FAR Minister Raul Castro announcing the promotion of various Cuban reserve officers.

At 1230 GMT, Jorge Lezcano, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee of the City of Havana Province, begins the ceremony's closing speech.

Lezcano begins his speech by recalling the day on which President Fidel Castro proclaimed the socialist character of the Cuban revolution "29 years ago." Lezcano goes on to praise Cuban militia men who have worked for and helped people "throughout the world" and who have been sent to the "distant lands of Ogaden and southern Angola." Lezcano continues his speech noting the "present combative readiness of the Cuban people."

At 1233 GMT, Lezcano mentions the TV Marti transmissions and says: "The militia spirit is seen in the people's immediate rejection of the Yankee television transmission tests, which are the most recent type of aggression against our homeland. This new infamy of the U.S. Government adds up to the worsening of the economic and political blockade that the United States has been promoting against Cuba for over 30 years. We have felt the militia spirit during these days when there is an increase in the presence of U.S. ships and planes in areas near our coast including the unjustified increase of U.S. military presence on the Navy base that the United States illegally occupies at Guantanamo Bay. Our militia people have responded to this aggressive escalation with serenity and firmness along with our party and our commander in chief. In view of this escalation, our militia men are seriously preparing to deal—if circumstances demand it—another Playa Giron blow against the Yankee imperialists." Lezcano concludes his speech at 1240 GMT.

The ceremony ends at 1250 GMT with a brief parade headed by a militia marching band and with the participation of the various militia troops present at the ceremony.

Almeida in Zimbabwe for Anniversary Celebrations

FL1604181590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] Cuban Vice President Juan Almeida Bosque arrived today in Harare, Zimbabwe, to participate in the festivities marking the 10th anniversary of that African country's independence. Upon his arrival at Harare's International Airport, Almeida, who is also a member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo, expressed his satisfaction at being able to visit this country once again after 10 years and, especially, for being able to visit with President Robert Mugabe, reelected during presidential elections held a few weeks ago.

Experts Meet on Mozambican Economic Cooperation

FL1604183290 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] Cuban and Mozambican experts for economic cooperation between the two countries are meeting in this capital. (Joaquin Tenreiro da Almeida) is heading the Mozambican delegation and Eliseo de Armas, vice president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, is representing Cuba. The meeting participants are analyzing the development of the agreements signed by the two countries in April 1989 and new interests in the economic and scientific-technical sectors. The economic cooperation meeting of Cuba-Mozambique experts will end on Friday [20 April]. The participants predict that more agreements will be signed.

Castro Receives Award for Chernobyl Cooperation

FL1604202090 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1936 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] Awards for participation in handling the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear plant have been granted to our commander in chief and the Cuban consul general in Kiev. The award was given today to Sergio Lopez in the Ukrainian capital by the representative of the Chernobyl Union organization, (Vladimir Ladochenkov).

These awards symbolize the gratitude of the Ukranian people for the solidarity and help given to the children injured by the accident, which spread mourning throughout the Ukraine, (Ladochenkov) said. When he gave the awards, the Soviet representative asked the Cuban consul general in Kiev to express the profound gratitude of the Ukrainian people to Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of State and Ministers.

Havana Declared Venue of Moncada Celebration

FL1604141890 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Excerpt] The Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee Politburo has agreed to declare Havana City Province as the venue of the 37th anniversary of the Moncada Barrack attack. The PCC Politburo made this decision based on the efforts made by Havana City Province to be worthy of this honor, on its prominent social and economic development, and on the progress it has made in the rectification process. [passage omitted]

People's Lack of Participation in Meetings Noted

FL1604125890 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2348 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Havana, 14 Apr (NOTIMEX)—People's consultation meetings for the preparation of the fourth congress of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC) are being received with indifference by the population inasmuch as the analysis meetings have generally turned out to be traditional assemblies.

The PCC leadership, through its official organ, the newspaper GRANMA, expresses concern over the lack of active participation in the discussions of the topics that will be included in the agenda of the next party congress scheduled for 1991.

Carlos Aldana, one of the top PCC ideologists, acknowledged in an interview with GRANMA that the consultation meetings have resulted in meetings to make demands related to service and labor problems because: We do not have a debate habit and education, he said.

The scant response to discussion of the topics for the congress is also a result of a lack of involvement in the preparation of the congress' agenda. Its text was outlined in the call for the congress made on 15 March.

The party leadership stressed that the top party meeting is very important because it will take place at a difficult time and at a time of great international tension. This tension is present within the framework of the collapse of the socialist block, the fall from power of communists in East Europe, and the triumphalism with which the Yankee (United States) imperialism is acting.

Party members have gone to the first meetings to bring up the day-to-day problems (problems with services or work-related problems) and to carry out traditional acts of revolutionary reaffirmation, without paying attention to the congress' overall problems.

The congress' agenda includes the perfecting of the party's activities, the perfecting of socialism, and discrimination against religious people.

In today's editorial, the official PCC news organ suggests that the assemblies have had a weak response to debate, perhaps, it pointed out, because they have coincided with the period of greatest tension.

The concern of the PCC leadership is expressed by the extension until September of the period of popular consultations inasmuch as the real success of the congress depends on their results, admits the party leadership.

In his interview with GRANMA, Aldana said: Only what the people make their own is what is achieved and prevails. The daily asserted that the assemblies have turned out to be meetings to discuss service or labor problems.

Comparison to Castro Meeting With Evangelicals

PA1404232090

Havana Cubavision Television Service in Spanish at 0200 GMT on 13 April carries a 120-minute rebroadcast of Part 2 of President Fidel Castro's meeting with representatives of evangelical groups and the Jewish community in Havana on 2 April. This version has been compared with the Havana Cubavision Network version published in the Cuba Section of the 13 April Latin America DAILY REPORT, pp 3-12, allowing the following indisinct words and rewording to be provided:

Page 4, column two, paragraph one, from sentence four, reads: ...meeting with Protestants, as they called them, Catholics, and Jews... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 4, column two, paragraph three, from sentence two reads: ...in the countryside. That is what they were for me. Imagine this is... (supplying indistinct words, rewording)

Page 4, column two, paragraph four, from sentence one reads: ...it was not.... [corrects himself] That is the way it was. Really I think... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 5, column one, paragraph three, from sentence two reads: ...all quite traumatic. Everyone was affected by the fever of a revolution, extremism,... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 5, column one, paragraph four, from last sentence reads: ...an antireligious nature, in the political sense, the revolutionary sense, because... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 5, column one, paragraph five, from sentence three reads: ...that the Church has many poor and humble followers. That is the case in Brazil and other countries and we had seen... (supplying indistinct passage)

Page 5, column two, paragraph four, from sentence three reads: ...on the development of this situation, that these... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 6, column one, paragraph two, from last sentence reads: ...discussion we held. [new paragraph] [Unidentified speaker] Christians and Socialism. [new graf] [Castro] Yes. Later in Jamaica, all the talks we had had were published. I think... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 6, column two, paragraph three, from sentence two reads: ...were present and those factors have had an... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 7, column one, paragraph two, from sentence one reads:...with Frei Betto spread throughout the world a totally new... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 7, column two, paragraph one, from sentence seven reads: ...is a problem of principle that has to be... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 7, column two, paragraph three, from last sentence reads: ...are militia members, who are willing to die for the country,... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 8, column one, paragraph three, from sentence two reads: ...because one person is going to, or not going to, join the party, or whether he is interested in taking on a responsibility or not, or... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 8, column one, paragraph three, from last sentence reads: ...are discriminated against. He is ignored and looked upon with a certain contempt and subjected to a

cross fire, that of the enemy and that of the revolution [applause] [new paragraph] They are... (rewording, supplying indistinct words)

Page 8, column one, paragraph four, from sentence two reads: ...defend their homeland and the people and they are willing... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 8, column one, paragraph four, from last sentence reads: ...or not. [applause] [new graf] How can there be a separation, a division, among ourselves, among the believers and nonbelievers. It is really absurd... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 8, column one, paragraph six, from sentence one reads: ...is the reason. That is the reason for all those problems there may... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 8, column one, paragraph six, from sentence four reads: ...have repaired churches. We cannot imagine a city without temples, or this or that. In other words, this not only creates a void in the need of the believers, it also creates a void in culture; it almost creates a void in urban life if we were to build towns without a single temple. [new graf] Well, all that... (supplying indistinct words, rewording)

Page 8, column two, paragraph one, from sentence two reads: ...but [repeats himself]—yes, yes—that comes out... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 8, column two, paragraph two, from sentence four reads: ...I would say that you have earned twice as much merit, like those who greeted me in Brazil. Despite that and... (supplying indistinct words, rewording)

Page 8, column two, paragraph two, from sentence five reads: ...admit that there is a discriminatory situation, give us support... (supplying indistinct word)

Page 8, column two, paragraph two, from penultimate sentence reads: ...I am sure that when those over there perceive that this problem will be resolved here, they will be happy. They will be very happy and they will even feel they have made a contribution, because every little bit helps. [new graf] That meeting that was held with them present will surely be an important contribution, because it coincided with this whole local situation... (supplying indistinct words, rewording)

Page 8, column two, paragraph three, from sentence six reads: ...the destiny of that socialism. And obviously,... (supplying indistinct word)

Page 8, column two, paragraph three, from penultimate sentence reads: ...this garbage capitalism for 500 years, it would be... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 9, column one, paragraph two, from sentence two reads: ...money based on that. It is a complete disaster... (supplying indistinct word)

Page 9, column one, paragraph three, from sentence two reads: ...positive economic rates. They grew so much, they have so much, they have sold the entire country. They have been a privileged country, and they have received more credits than anyone else. Well, last year... (supplying indistinct words, rewording)

Page 9, column one, paragraph three, from sentence four reads: ...works than Chile. Now, because of ferocious repression, workers cannot protest. Workers cannot demand... (supplying indistinct words, rewording)

Page 10, column one, first incomplete paragraph, from sentence one reads: ...inflated personnel rosters until we can deflate them. It would probably be more useful... (supplying indistinct words, rewording)

Page 10, column one, paragraph one, from sentence four reads: ...there and then there are problems when a road needs to be built on one of those hills. The cities are full of those... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 10, column one, paragraph one, from penultimate sentence reads: ...manner. The streets later have to be built in circles because they cannot cross at this or at that point. New York, amid... [changes thought] [laughter] You can see the New York skyscrapers. Sao Paulo is a city with skyscrapers and avenues that are comparable to those in New York, but who invented all that for our poor Third World countries? [new graf] Gentlemen, they... (supplying missing words from break in reception)

Page 10, column one, paragraph three, from sentence nine reads: ...I gave them the example of what they are still taking out every year. They have gained more... (supplying words indistinct, rewording)

Page 10, column one, paragraph three, from last sentence reads: ...of their gains we would have to subtract...[changes thought] There is no future. There really is no future for them, and no one knows what the final outcome will be. [new graf] Now I am closely following everyday in all news reports how they are fighting inflation... (supplying missing words from break in reception)

Page 10, column two, first incomplete paragraph, from last sentence reads: ...needs 10,000 teachers, it can have those 10,000 teachers when inflation appears, because... (supplying missing words from break in reception)

Page 10, column two, paragraph three, from sentence five reads: ...opportunities to women, but it is essential that she has it. It is unavoidable... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 10, column two, paragraph three, from sentence eight reads: ...not want it. I noticed they were amazed with the things I told them when I returned from the meetings, and I mentioned a... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 10, column two, paragraph three, from penultimate sentence reads: ...and has to work because life imposes it on them? Many of them... (supplying indistinct words, rewording)

Page 11, column one, paragraph one, from sentence five reads: ...such as Venezuela, which receives who knows how many billions [currency not specified] from the oil they sell. The city is surrounded... (supplying indistinct words, rewording)

Page 11, column one, paragraph four, from sentence one reads: ...how they can find technical solutions to those... (supplying indistinct word)

Page 11, column one, paragraph seven, from sentence two reads: ...not a sectarian but during that period I was able... (deleting editorial notation)

Page 11, column two, from sentence one reads: ...trend opposite to this, those who do not want this to occur say there will be an (?apocalypse). In that case, life would be in contradiction... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 12, column one, paragraph two, from sentence five reads: ...be one who has read so many things from books, texts from abroad [crowd laughs]... (supplying indistinct words)

Page 12, column one, from sentence one reads: ...lack of understanding. So we gain and we all gain a lot, and you can be sure that many people will be happy because amid all those norms, rules, worries, and prejudice..... (supplying indistinct words, rewording)

Page 12, column one, from sentence two reads: ...were lying down. Their health was not good. They had a number of saints... (supplying indistinct words)

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

Soviet Parliamentary Group To Visit Caribbean

FL1604130290 Bridgetown CANA in English 1533 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 14, CANA—A two-man Soviet parliamentary delegation is scheduled to visit three Caribbean countries including the Bahamas and Barbados shortly on a goodwill mission, the Georgetown office of the NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY (APN) has announced.

The delegation which will be headed by People's Deputy Boris Miroshin will be in the Bahamas from April 15 to 22; in the Dominican Republic from April 18 to 22; and, in Barbados from April 22 to 26. Miroshin is the secretary of the Committee of the Supreme Soviet that deals with the Soviets of People's Deputies and Management Development. The other parliamentarian will be People's Deputy Yusuf Iskhaki, member of the Supreme Soviet Committee on Health and chancellor of the Medical Institute of Tajikistan.

The two parliamentarians will be accompanied by Valeriy Kuzin, deputy head of the Department of International Relations of the USSR Supreme Soviet Secretariat and Valentin Kornyukhin, an expert in the Latin American Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR. A similar goodwill mission visited Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago two years ago.

Antigua and Barbuda

Newspaper Calls for Prime Minister's Resignation

FL1604133190 Bridgetown CANA in English 2008 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] St. John's, Antigua, April 14, CANA—OUTLET newspaper, a persistent critic of the Antigua and Barbuda Government, has called for the resignation of Prime Minister Vere Bird and his son, Communications Minister Vere Bird Jr., over the shipping of arms to Colombia through St. John's last year. The paper accused the Antigua and Barbuda Government of being involved in an arms transshipment last April that the authorities here said ended up in the hands of a drug baron.

"Vere Bird (Jr.) should resign now and, to save his own name and his historic place in the evolution of Antigua and Barbuda, Prime Minister Bird should do likewise," the paper said.

"Otherwise, there will be further international disgrace brought on tiny Antigua and Barbuda."

Vere Bird Jr. was not immediately available for comment. But his brother, Deputy Prime Minister Lester Bird, has been trying to get to the bottom of reports that customs and other officials here might have facilitated the movement of Israeli arms through St. John's to Colombia. Lester Bird, who heads a committee set up to investigate the shipment, recommended appointment of a judicial committee to continue the probe.

"I believe a prima facie case has been established pointing to wrong-doing by several persons in Antigua and by a company purported to be established in Antigua....," Lester Bird said in a letter to the prime minister.

Lester Bird denied that the Antiguan Government or the Defence Force ordered or paid for the unspecified amount of arms.

"It is clear therefore that the Israeli Government was misled," Bird said.

Arms Said Meant for Colombian Military School

FL1604135390 Bridgetown CANA in English 2122 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] St. John's, Antigua, April 14, CANA—A controversial arms shipment through Antigua and Barbuda a year ago was meant for a Colombian military school—not a drug baron, according to newspaper reports on an official probe here. A report in the NATION newspaper here quoted an Israeli colonel as saying the supplies were "appropriated" by "undesirable elements" who overran

the school. The government in St. John's said the arms had ended up in the hands of a Colombian drug baron.

The Antiguan paper reported what it said was evidence given to a committee headed by Deputy Prime Minister Lester Bird that has been probing the shipping of the Israeli arms to Colombia through St. John's last April. In an affidavit he was said to have written, Col. Yair Cal Klein [name as received], president/owner of Spearhead Ltd., reported he had had talks with Defence Force and government officials about setting up the school to train law enforcement personnel and employees of private companies.

Col. Klein, whose company specialises in personal security and anti-terrorism, said he met twice with Colonel Clyde Walker, head of the Defence Force here, and once with communications minister, Vere Bird Jr. He explained that by the time permission was denied for the school here "the material was already en route" and "at this point, I alone made the necessary arrangements for the transshipment for its final destination."

"(At) some unknown time the school was physically overrun by undesirable elements who appropriated that material and equipment," he reported.

Klein added, "I hereby reaffirm that no Antiguan official whatsoever nor Mr. Maurice Sarfati (an Israeli investor) had any knowledge of the diversion. The only assistance I requested from Mr. Safarti is to direct us to a customs broker to take care of the transshipment."

Comptroller of Customs Ralston Samuel in a report carried by the paper said that two of his staffers neglected their duties in dealing with the cargo. Samuel said a customs officer who cleared the vessel did so without notifying him or his supervisor or ensuring provision for securing such dangerous cargo while it was on the docks.

"He did not, as required by law, demand a licence for the importation of this contanier of firearms. He entered the information in the boarding book register at the deep water harbour," Samuel said.

He complained that the officer had "shown great negligence in his regard for normal customs requirements as regards reporting the importation of an entire 20 foot container of arms and ammunition."

He added: "His explanation that all this was an oversight is to say the least unacceptable."

Listing errors made, he said: "No licence for the importation of firearms was presented with the entry to customs as required by law, the supporting invoices were not original but photopcopies (which only the comptroller can authorise), there is no signature of any importer or his authorised agent in the entry as required by the tariff clerk...."

Dominican Republic

Mrs. Beauchamps Greets Mrs. Noriega at Airport

FL1604170790 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] Mrs. Felicidad Noriega, wife of General Manuel Antonio Noriega, former Panamanian strongman, has arrived in the country. Felicidad Noriega was received at Las Americas International Airport by Mrs. Belinda de Beauchamps, wife of General Juan Rene Beauchamps Javier, former secretary of the Armed Forces. Gen. Noriega's wife took refuge at the Cuban Embassy in Panama for two months following the events that took place in that country which caused the former chief of the Panama Defense Forces to seek refuge in the nunciature.

Haiti

Heads of City Hall, Airport Authority Resign

FL1604192990 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Excerpts] The public administration is still in turmoil. At Port-au-Prince City Hall, Claude Baboun, who was appointed president of the communal committee by presidential decree, has resigned. In his letter of resignation carried in the press, Baboun explains he decided to resign to help the new government find a solution to the crisis at city hall, following a campaign of denigration launched against him by a handful of ill-intentioned and vengeful individuals.

Baboun also announces his intention to refuse to follow his detractors onto the field of lies while reserving the right to take to court all those who have tried to damage his credibility. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, the head of the National Airport Authority, retired Haitian Armed Forces Major General Carl Michel Nicolas, has also addressed a letter of resignation to President Ertha Pascal Trouillot. [passage omitted]

State Council Delegation Visits Youth Group

FL1604193890 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] On 14 April, at the invitation of democratic associations and people's groups of the lower Artibonite Valley, a State Council delegation composed of Marc Lamour, Carl Auguste—who is the delegate from the Artibonite—Chavannes Jeune, and Gerard Blot toured the lower Artibonite Valley.

The delegation arrived in Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite at approximately 1000, where they met with the progressive youth of Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite to listen to

and study their grievances, and also to give satisfaction to the population suffering abuses from section chiefs, justices of the peace, etc.

After that, at the request of the population, the State Council delegation went to Labadie to meet with the peasants. The soldier in charge of the outpost at Labadie demanded that the delegation turn back, saying he would not be responsible for their security in Labadie. Despite the delegation's explanation, the sergeant was very categoric and the delegation had to turn back without having met with the peasants of Labadie.

4 Alleged Bandits Lynched in Artibonite Valley

FL1604223790 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Excerpts] [Announcer] In the Artibonite Valley over the Easter weekend four people considered thieves were lynched in a private vehicle. Our Gonaives correspondent has the details.

[Correspondent Fegerson Legros, in Creole] On 13 April, there was an important incident in La Croix Perisse, which is 6 km from l'Estere and 12 km from Gonaives. Area residents had set up a vigilance brigade to watch for the thieves and thugs who are customarily attacking, robbing, and killing people in the area. On Thursday night, 12 April, they caught four young men in a small car, killed them with machetes, and burned their car.

The population says these thieves had broken into Reverend Pierre's church and stolen equipment. The population says there were six people in the car. Two of them were standing and shooting. They say they captured these people, and that the people talked before the population killed them. [passage omitted]

We then went to Marchand Dessalines where we met with some people from Fabias who told us that the men were not thieves, that they were in a rara group and the group's drumhead had torn and they had had to enter Gonaives to get a drum. The people from Fabias also said that there were not six people, that only the four people who were killed had been in that car, and that the police should conduct an investigation quickly. [passage omitted]

We ask people traveling at night on National Highway No. 1 to be extremely careful.

Jamaica

Government Recognizes Chile's Democratic Status

FL1604140390 Bridgetown CANA in English 1550 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, April 15, CANA—Jamaica has extended its recognition of the new government in Chile, a foreign affairs spokesman was quoted as saying by the official news agency, JAMPRESS. The recognition came as a result of the return of democracy to Chile with the swearing in of president Patricio Aylwin last month.

The two countries established relations in 1963 but when the Army seized power in 1973 Jamaica withdrew its recognition of the military government.

St. Lucia

Opposition Leader Hunte Criticizes Easter Budget

FL1604131190 Bridgetown CANA in English 1738 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Castries, St. Lucia, April 14, CANA—Prime Minister John Compton describes it as an Easter budget aimed at "the resurrection of the economy." But oppositon leader Julian Hunte says it is a "pot luck" budget that has nothing for the people. The prime minister and his opposite number were both speaking of the EC [Eastern Caribbean] 389 million dollars 1990-91 budget presented in Parliament on Wednesday [11 April] evening.

Compton insisted it was a "tax free" budget in that it contained no new tax measures. Hunte said, however, that the new budget contained "nothing new," and was just "a warmed-up version of last year's budget."

"What is absolutely clear is that the prime minister is more interested in development of real estate than he is in dealing with fiscal measures to tackle serious problems in the social infrastructure of this country."

The opposition leader challenged the prime minister's assertion that unemployment here stands at 13 per cent. He said: "I challenge him to commission the International Labour Organization (ILO) to undertake a proper survey to determine the real state of unemployment here. The most conspicuous thing about the 1989 economic review is the absence of any figures on unemployment."

Hunte asserted that the unemployment figures were "deliberately left out." He said the real figure is "nearer 40 per cent," adding that "they don't want to publicise it as it would be very embarrassing to them."

The opposition leader said it was noteworthy that "this year we didn't hear the usual poppycock about population growth which was used in previous budget addresses to hide his government's inefficiency."

With regard to the prime minister's statement that this year's was a "tax-free" budget Hunte, a businessman, said he would take care of that in his official response to the budget as "I know otherwise." He also promised to address the claim by Compton that opposition members made no request for projects to the Ministry of Finance in the last year. The debate on the budget starts on Tuesday [17 April].

Health Ministry To Cohost AIDS Conference

FL1604164290 Bridgetown CANA in English 1317 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] Castries, St. Lucia, April 16, CANA—St. Lucia's Ministry of Health and Project Hope—a U.S.-based agency—will co-host a seminar on AIDS education and counselling opening here Tuesday [17 April]. The seminar ending April 20 at the St. Lucian Hotel is expected to attract more than 80 health and social workers here.

The ministry's health education officer, Edward Emmanuel, says the ministry has intensified its AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) education programme, and by December 1990 hopes to train all health workers about AIDS and the management of persons with the disease.

This is the second major AIDS conference here. Last December the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre (Carec) hosted a regional AIDS conference for media personnel. It was aimed at sensitizing media personnel about the disease. Latest figures indicate that 20 persons with aids have died here.

Trinidad and Tobago

Robinson To Visit Venezuela; Talk With Perez

FL1604144490 Bridgetown CANA in English 1740 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, April 15, CANA—Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson visits Venezuela this week for talks with President Carlos Andres Perez. Accompanying Robinson on the three-day trip which starts on Tuesday [17 April] are Energy Minister Herbert Atwell and state oil officials.

Originally, Perez was scheduled to visit Trinidad and Tobago this month but there was no immediate explanation for the change. Robinson's visit, however, follows a recent shooting incident in the Gulf of Paria between south Trinidad fishermen and Venezuela's National Guard which soured steadily improving relations between the two countries which lie some six miles apart.

During his visit, Robinson will hold talks with Perez and then meet the governing body of the Venezuelan Congress on Tuesday. On Wednesday [18 April], the Trinidad leader will meet with the secretaries general of Venezuela's political parties, visit the headquarters of the Latin American Economic Commission, SELA, and receive Venezuela's decoration—El Gran Cordon Del Libertador first class—at a special dinner.

Costa Rica

Assembly Approves Extradition Treaty With U.S.

PA1704044390 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2335 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] San Jose, 16 April (DPA)—The Legislative Assembly approved today, during its third and last debate, an extradition treaty signed in 1982 between Costa Rica and the United States.

In the Costa Rican case, the treaty, which is aimed at "fighting crime" and international drug trafficking, does not affect Costa Rican citizens. Turning Costa Rican citizens over to another country is forbidden by the Constitution.

The agreement with the U.S. aroused heated debate and was even taken before a constitutional court, which decided that it was not prohibited by the country's Magna Carta.

The purpose of the treaty is to enable both countries to turn over wanted foreigners to each other's legal authorities.

Nicaragua

Ortega, Obando y Bravo on Contra Disarmament

PA1704014290 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 16 Apr 90

[News conference by President Daniel Ortega; Msgr. Miguel Obando y Bravo; and Reverend Gustavo Parajon, president of the Evangelical Committee for Development Aid, with unidentified reporters at the Olof Palme Convention Center in Managua—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Ortega] ....Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, ONUCA [United Nations' Observer Group in Central America], and CIAV [International Commission for Support and Verification]. Consequently, what is my assessment as Nicaraguan president and signatory of the peace plan that started in August 1987, an assessment that I transmitted to His Eminence Obando y Bravo and Reverend Gustavo Parajon this morning? What are my concerns and my assessment?

I signed an accord that involved all Central American countries in an effort for peace and democracy. In Costa del Sol on 14 February 1989, we all made a commitment whereby I promised to hold the elections early, on 25 February, to exchange arms and the war for votes and so that the confrontation could take place in the election booth. My promise to hold the elections early, on 25 February, also meant that on 5 December, according to what we—the Central American presidents—signed in Tela, Honduras, on 7 August 1989, the contras should have been disarmed and demobilized. The contras would have confronted us in the elections. The arms would have been exchanged for the votes.

But what is happening now? At the Montelimar meeting, the Central American presidents set a deadline, ending on 25 April, for the contras to disarm and demobilize. On 9 April, the contras and a delegation of the new government signed an accord in Honduras saying that meetings would be held in Nicaragua to discuss the areas in Nicaragua where the contras would gather—most of these areas are in Nicaragua—and a bilateral cease-fire, whose terms and stages would be determined with ONUCA's technical assistance.

The only thing the contras would have to do is surrender the weapons of the forces who are still in Honduras, and who on 18 April will still be in Honduras. When the five Central American presidents met at Montelimar, we summoned Mr. Ruiz of the United Nations, and Mr. Gonzalez of the OAS. In other words, the presidents of Honduras, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and El Salvador, Mr. Ruiz, and Mr. Gonzalez witnessed our discussion. At that meeting, Honduran President Callejas said that on 17 April, 4,000 contras in Yamales and 2,000 in the Honduran Mosquitia, in Honduras' South Atlantic area bordering with Nicaragua's North Atlantic, will be disarmed.

We said today that on 17 April, 6,000 in Honduran territory will be disarmed; 4,000 in Yamales; and 2,000 in the Honduran Mosquitia area. However, according to the reports coming in, there will be a maximum of 500 to 1,000 contras in Yamales, not the 4,000 that President Callejas spoke of. Mr. Ruiz has expressed concern that when the time comes for the surrender of weapons, there will be no contras in Honduran territory because the contras will have massively infiltrated or invaded Nicaraguan territory.

I also told President Callejas that there are 15,000 of the contras' relatives in Honduran territory who could be included in a repatriation program. However, what worries me at this time is my responsibility to the Nicaraguan people after signing the agreements. I am worried that I have fulfilled all of the pledges I made. We even held elections on 25 February, which the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] lost; however, I have expressed my resolve to have a normal transition on 25 April, if the contras are disarmed and totally demobilized.

In other words, I did my part, and I hope that the other side will do its part. April 25th must not find one side fulfilling its pledge and the other side not doing so. The people in the war zones, in Regions 1, 5, and 6, feel seriously threatened by the thousands of contras who are in those areas. The contras have staged attacks that have claimed the lives of civilian citizens, children, soldiers, and officers. We have strictly abided by the suspension of offensive activities, and we have gathered our forces, while the contras are attacking and threatening the civilian population. The civilians are requesting

weapons to defend themselves, in addition to the normal weaponry used for the country's defense. The civilians are asking for weapons to defend themselves in response to the threat posed by the contras, who are not showing signs of disarming by 25 April.

Therefore, we are faced with the risk of reaching 25 April and not being able to carry out the peaceful transfer of power we have all strived, hoped, and struggled for.

I am now making an appeal to His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo as spiritual leader of Nicaraguans so that, since he knows about this situation, he will make it known to the bishops and so that, by 25 April, the contras will have really disarmed and we will not be faced with the risk of a larger-scale confrontation and a real civil war.

I have also expressed these concerns to Rev. Parajon of CEPAD [Evangelical Committee for Development Aid] as representative of important sectors of the Evangelical people in Nicaragua, because I feel that the Catholic Church and the various Evangelical denominations have a role to play at this time, particularly in the war zones, mountains, small towns, valleys, hamlets, and cities. That role is to clamor and work for peace, which translates into a strict compliance with the agreement we, the Central Americana presidents, have signed. In it, we have set a deadline for the contras to disarm by 25 April. We have asked him to advise the Nicaraguan people to reject all war actions and to demand the disarmament of the counterrevolution.

If we succeed in this, and also in enforcing respect for the agreements signed by the transition teams, we will have an optimum climate for a peaceful transfer of power to take place in Nicaragua on 25 April. This is what I want as president of Nicaragua, and I am sure this is what His Eminence Cardinal Obando wants, what the Catholic Church wants, what Rev. Gustavo Parajon wants, and what all Nicaraguans want.

I wanted to express these concerns and, if a contra delegation comes to Nicaragua within the next few days to deal with points that have a bearing on the concentration of contras among the Nicaraguan people (?and) the cease-fire, I think that the main point for discussion should be an immediate disarmanent of the contras. That is to say, they must immediately proceed to present, or in any event take the appropriate steps to disarm immediately. ONUCA is ready to receive the weapons. The CIAV is ready to relocate them wherever they wish to be relocated. Therefore, all that is lacking is that they be ready to turn in the weapons.

I see no need to stall for time, because if a contra delegation comes here to discuss gathering places and to discuss—as they have pointed out—a bilateral cease-fire, conditions and stages to be specified with ONUCA, they would be simply buying time and giving the impression that they want to disarm, They would be making fools of us, as we Nicaraguans say, by supposedly disarming in Honduras—where they can even gather a few people of those who are there in Honduras and carry out a mostly token disarmament to stall for time and not disarm their men in Nicaragua. After 25 April, they would adopt the warlike position they maintain—or contra sectors maintain and continue to maintain—and they would try to open a military offensive and demand negotiations that are unacceptable to our nation and to the Nicaraguan people. They would go against the country's Constitution and against the agreements of the Central American presidents.

Therefore, I am issuing a warning about this situation both to the Nicaraguan people and to the international community for the respective efforts to be made domestically and internationally to get the contras to disarm by 25 April. Disarming is easy. It does not take much time. It is a question of will, and if they have the will to disarm, all contras may be disarmed between now and 25 April.

However, other worrisome elements have sprung up, such as the statements made by this gentleman known as [contra Commander] Franklin. Following the signing of the agreement with the delegation of the future government on 9 April in Honduras, he said that they are going to remain armed. He said in Honduras that they will remain armed to guarantee Nicaragua's democratization.

Well, I will disregard Mr. Franklin's statements and will refer to the agreements. The agreements leave no room for the Nicaraguan Government to trust—because I have been directly involved in this peacemaking process, in these agreements—that the contras will be disarmed by 25 April. We must do all that is necessary for the contras to disarm by 25 April and for a peaceful transfer of power to take place. I talked a great deal about this this morning with His Eminence Cardinal Obando and with Rev. Gustavo Parajon, and I will now give the floor to Cardinal Obando [words indistinct].

[Announcer] We have just listened to statements by President Daniel Ortega Saavedra; now we will listen to Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo.

[Obando y Bravo, in progress] ... to achieve this, but we must not be disheartened. As a clergyman I believe we must pray, especially during the most difficult times, because if our hearts are not pacified, it will be difficult for our society to be at peace. I believe we must pray and do everything we can for there to be brotherhood and harmony among Nicaraguans.

[Reporter] Cardinal, you signed the Toncontin agreements. Will you tell the contras when they meet now that they must respect those agreements?

[Obando y Bravo] I signed to show that the representatives from the incoming government as well as the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] had reached an agreement. In fact, they reached an agreement to disarm the people in Yamales, Honduras, by 20 April at the latest. Of course, there is a gap in terms of the date for the people who have already entered Nicaraguan territory with

weapons. The gap remains because there has been no date for this. I will try to remind them of those agreements, although I am a witness. I assume that the incoming government's commission will have their say. A witness does not speak much, but from time to time he asks to speak and is given an opportunity to do so. Therefore, I will do anything within my power to achieve peace in Nicaragua.

[Reporter] Cardinal, there is talk of peace. What, in your opinion, is needed for Nicaragua to have definitive peace?

[Obando y Bravo] For Nicaragua to have definitive peace, it is necessary—first of all—for our hearts to be free of hatred and of the desire for vengeance and unbridled power. I believe it is time for the weapons to get a rest. I say this because it would be to our advantage for all of the weapons to become tractors that can plow the earth, and for the bayonets to become plows to cultivate corn, beans, hospitals, and whatever the Nicaraguan people may need in order to lead a dignified life.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] the contra representatives for immediate disarmament?

[Obando y Bravo] As I said, they will be told this, especially by the incoming government's commission. I am only a witness. I will do whatever is within my power.

[Announcer] We will now hear the statements of Rev. Gustavo Parajon.

[Parajon] It has caused me a great deal of concern to hear the latest reports bringing us up to date on the Esquipulas agreements. For my part, I will summon the CEPAD's rank and file, and its General Assembly, which is the top body within our authority, to inform them and ask them to make every possible effort to mediate and bring about a reconciliation in Nicaragua.

Our churches have been working, especially in the Nueva Guinea area, and mediating between the government, the RN, and the 33 local peace commissions, and their efforts have been very successful. Personally, I spoke with Commanders Halcon and Gallo, and through them with Commanders Navegante and Ganso. I believe the churches can make a big contribution in Nueva Guinea. The churches, including the Catholic and evangelical churches, have made a contribution. I believe that at this time there should be a call for harmony and mutual understanding. Every Nicaraguan has awaited this moment of peace. I believe the Esquipulas agreement is the most suitable for achieving peace in Central America and Nicaragua. I also urge the RN to fulfill the Esquipulas agreements to the letter, so that in Nicaragua we can devote ourselves to our country's reconstruction and rehabilitation.

[Announcer] We have listened to the statements of Rev. Gustavo Parajon directly from the Olof Palme Convention Center. He participated in a meeting with the president and Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo to study the delicate situation Nicaragua is currently facing. We will now hear President Daniel Ortega Saavedra.

[Reporter] Do you expect the contras to demobilize over the next few days? If not, what will happen with the transition?

[Ortega] We must join efforts to get the contras to comply with the disarmament, because I have complied and the Nicaraguan Government has complied. I gave my word and the Central American governments have also expressed hope that the Nicaraguan people will have peace. Therefore, I cannot agree to our reaching 25 April with the contras stalling through negotiations and not disarming.

In other words, the contras must be disarmed by the 25th, just as we—the Central American presidents—have pointed out. These are essential points we must defend. They are not new, and we are not inventing them at the last minute. This has been a process that, as I have pointed out, began on 7 August 1987 in Guatemala. It acquired new impetus and strength on 14 February 1989 with the Costa del Sol agreements. We clearly said: We are going to exchange the weapons and the war for votes.

Therefore, I have complied with everything that was up to me. I have not only complied with the part that was merely electoral but with everything connected with the elections, that is, with the release of the Somozist guardsmen—all of them have been released from jail—and the release of the contras, all of whom have been released from jail. All these measures were taken and completely fulfilled.

Therefore, during the last meeting of Central American presidents, a very explicit and clear recognition was made of my efforts during this peace process and the results of 25 February. However, there was a problem. We asked what comes first, the chicken or the egg? We said we were going to be flexible, and we were flexible. I was flexible in the agreements that were reached in Costa del Sol in February 1989. Then we gave the contras a deadline. We set a deadline for the contras to demobilize at the meeting that was held in Tela on 7 August 1989. The deadline expired on 5 December in order for the contras to participate in the elections that were to be held on 25 February 1990.

Then the contras did not disarm and did not demobilize. We did not say.... [changes thought] We could have said, well, since the contras have not disarmed, there will be no elections, because an agreement had been reached, and the agreement was elections versus disarmament of the contras. I could have said since there is no contra disarmament, there will be no elections. However, we said no, let us go ahead with the elections. This was precisely aimed at exerting more pressure so that the disarmament of the contras would be complied with. We went through with the elections. The results of the elections are known, and the contras are still not disarmed.

The United States still has not cut off the aid they are sending to the contras through the so-called humanitarian aid. The U.S. humanitarian assistance continues to reach the contras. In other words, official U.S. aid continues to arrive for the counterrevolution in flagrant violation of these agreements.

We are approaching 25 April, the date when we will have a new government in Nicaragua. Then, with full responsibility, I must demand that the counterrevolution be disarmed to have a peaceful transition on 25 April. Otherwise, what the Central American presidents agreed upon will not be complied with. The Nicaraguan people will be exposed to the aggressive actions of the contras, the terrorist actions of the contras, and to demands for negotiation that the contras will raise in the new situation that will occur after 25 April.

Therefore, all I am doing at this time is demanding the fulfillment of the agreements signed by the Central American presidents and endorsed by all the international community and by the Nicaraguan people. I am demanding fulfillment of the agreement signed by... [corrects himself] or ratified on 3 April in Montelimar by the Central American presidents, when we established the date of 25 April as the deadline for the contras to be disarmed. I am demanding fulfillment of this agreement, which was supported by Mrs. Violeta de Chamorro, who was there at the close of the meeting, heard the document read, and later said she supported it fully. I am simply demanding this and noting the gravity of the situation.

[Reporter] Will there be a transition on 25 April?

[Ortega] We are already examining this. I have called His Eminence Cardinal Obando, and I have also called Rev. Gustavo Parajon to keep him abreast of all this. We are proceeding to examine this situation. As head of state, as head of government, and as the one chiefly responsible for these agreements, I signed all of these agreements together with the Sandinist National Liberation Front Directorate, which has supported these agreements. We are analyzing this situation to be able to find an adequate response at such critical, difficult, and grave crossroads, which is the situation Nicaragua is faced with. We are very close to peace, but we are also very close to war.

[Reporter] Do you think it is possible that the transfer of power of the new government will be postponed?

[Ortega] I have simply pointed out that we are very close to peace and we are very close to war.

[Reporter] Have there been any demonstrations by the people requesting or asking for peace?

[Ortega] Yes, it is coming today. I understand that a contra delegation is arriving. I hope this contra delegation will come and speak clearly about disarmament, and not just to win time. I hope this delegation will come to discuss where a point of concentration will be, how the truce will be carried out, how long the truce will last, and what stages will be involved. I hope that this delegation will not just win time; that is, the delegation will leave and when 25 April arrives, the contras will still not be disarmed in Nicaraguan territory. They want to make fools of us with the contras who are going to be disarmed in Honduran territory. We will not be made fools of. The contras must be disarmed. That is what was agreed to and that is what we will defend.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] said that Nicaragua, your country, was a step away from a civil war.

[Ortega] Precisely, I am saying here that we are very close to peace and that we are very close to war.

[Announcer, interrupting] This is La Voz de Nicaragua directly from the Olof Palme Convention Center where a meeting has been held by President Daniel Ortega Saavedra, His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, and Gustavo Parajon. The president of the Republic has demanded that the contras must be demobilized before 25 April, the date when the new government will take office. This is a broadcast by La Voz de Nicaragua. We now return to our studios.

Ortega Expressses Concern Over Demobilization

PA1604172890 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Interview with President Daniel Ortega Saavedra by unidentified reporter; date and not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] How do you view your relations with Nicaragua's Christians?

[Ortega] They have been generally good. We have gone through certain difficulties and experienced certain contradictions, which is normal. However, I view these relations as positive overall.

[Reporter] What is your wish for Nicaraguans in this Holy Week?

[Ortega] That we should all get busy praying so the contras will be demobilized and disarmed, because they are a threat to the Nicaraguan people. Many agreements have been signed, but still we [words indistinct], and I plan to talk about this, as I am worried about the agreement just signed in Honduras. It seems to be a positive agreement, but there are delicate aspects. For example, at the Montelimar meeting President Callejas said 4,000 contras were to be demobilized in Honduras on 17 April. These contras are in Yamales. There are another 2,000 contras in the Honduran Mosquitia region. In other words, we are talking about 6,000 contras. However, now they are saying that there are only 500 or [words indistinct] who will be disbanded on 17 April.

What does this mean? Well, that [words indistinct] against the Nicaraguan people, and they will continue to be a threat unless they are immediately disarmed prior to 25 April, as the Central American presidents agreed.

Otherwise, it would be [words indistinct] a counterrevolution that is trying to gain time by expressing a will to disband but that is not proceeding to do so. If the contras do not disband, they would only be conducting a symbolic act, like that which they will carry out in Honduras on 18 April to gain time and get to 25 April [words indistinct] which could seriously threaten the peace and tranquility of Nicaraguans.

[Reporter] What can the Nicaraguan religious people do to avoid this?

[Ortega] Pray. Pray and mobilize so that this will not happen and the contras will disband prior to 25 April.

Contra Delegation in Tegucigalpa Postpones Visit

PA1704024990 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0107 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 16 Apr (ACAN-EFE)—A "contra" delegation led by Commander "Ruben," which had sought refuge in Honduras and had planned to go to Nicaragua today, has postponed the trip until 0700 (1300 GMT) tomorrow.

A spokesperson for the anti-Sandinist rebels told ACAN-EFE that the safe-conducts to travel and move about in Nicaragua for the "contra" leaders was not received until this afternoon.

The spokesperson noted that the Nicaraguan Embassy did not deny them the safe-conducts "but gave them to us after 1600, minutes before the takeoff time of the aircraft that we had to board."

A spokesperson for the Nicaragua Embassy, however, told ACAN-EFE that "we were waiting all day for the contra members to come to pick up their safe-conducts, but they did so after the Consulate had closed."

Spokespersons for the "contras" in Tegucigalpa said that the delegation will leave tomorrow in an aircraft of the UN Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA), together with Spanish Division General Agustin Quesada, head of that international peace force.

Several of the "contra" commanders and advisers met during the morning with Major General Joaquin Cuadra Lacayo, chief of staff of the Sandinist People's Army, Nicaraguan Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, and Nicaraguan President-Elect Violeta Chamorro, as well as with other current and future government authorities.

Conversations centered on the disarmament and demobilization of the rebels who are in Nicaraguan territory to bring an end to the war, the source added.

ONUCA commander Gen. Agustin Quesada will travel with the Nicaraguan Resistance leaders.

Reporters from various media were at the Sandino Airport all afternoon waiting for the anti-Sandinist rebels, who had planned to leave on a commercial Honduran airline flight today.

UN Group Disarms 260 Nicaraguan Indian Contras

PA1704015590 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2216 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 16 Apr (EFE)—The UN Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) today disarmed 260 Nicaraguan Indian "contras," including 14 women and 24 war disabled who are in the country.

An ONUCA spokesperson in Tegucigalpa told EFE that the event was carried out in the community of Kiatara in Gracias a Dios Department on the Nicaraguan border.

The Miskito Indians, grouped in the "Yatama" [Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Indians, and Creole Groups] organization, belonged to three armed companies, one a logistics group and the other an administration group. [sentence as received]

The source indicated that the anti-Sandinist rebels turned over their weapons to Spanish General Agustin Quesada, the ONUCA commander. The weapons were then destroyed in the presence of several UN observers.

The Indians, who were dismantled and disarmed by ONUCA, will remain in Honduras until late April under the supervision of the International Commission of Support and Verification (CIAV).

At the end of the ceremony, Quesada returned to Tegucigalpa from where he will travel to Nicaragua tomorrow, accompanying several commanders and advisers of the "contras," who will meet on 17 April with Nicaraguan President-Elect Violeta de Chamorro and high-ranking officers of the Sandinist People's Army.

According to reports in Tegucigalpa, the "contras" will attempt in Managua to expedite an end to the war, which depends upon the disarming and demobilization of the rebels who are in Nicaragua.

Quesada will return on 18 April to Nicaragua to disarm and demobilize that same day approximately 1,000 "contras" who have taken refuge in Yamales (Honduras).

Managua Radio on Recent Contra 'Deadly Offensive'

PA1604214690 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1953 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] A counterrevolutionary group last night fired a mortar near Somoto and also fired their rifles causing fear among Somoto residents, Rigoberto Cordoba, FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] political municipal secretary, reported. The incident occurred last night at about 2035 when the mortar was fired. Later, approximately 30 people appeared before the military authorities demanding weapons to defend the town. The contras were located in El Menenar, three km west of Somoto. At the time the mortar was fired, Cordoba, who is also chief of the Franklin Blandon Reserve Battalion, was speaking with the government-elect representatives in [words indistinct], Victor Manuel Talavera and Rene

Alfaro Garcia, to brief them on the situation caused by the contras. Talavera and Alfaro condemned the warmongering actions and promised to appeal to the contras to cease actions seeking to sow panic among the population.

Three hundred heavily-armed counterrevolutionaries are moving dangerously about the main roads leading to the Panamerican Highway between San Isidro and La Trinidad Municipality, located 100 km north of Managua. A Defense Ministry spokesman reported that during Holy Week, armed groups of contras lead by a contra known as Perron, in violation of the cease-fire, harassed several military posts, which resulted in clashes with the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) troops. The source added that armed groups of contras have settled in El Naranjo, Cocomico, Las Mesas, La Cabeza, Las Fibras, and Las Canas, among other communities located near San Isidro, where the contras have kept peasants in a state of anxiety as a result of looting, kidnappings, and death threats.

According to the peasants' testimony, the contras are not willing to lay down their weapons until the EPS has been dismantled and the new government of Mrs. Barrios de Chamorro gives them a share of power because of the 10 years of death and terrorism they have staged against the Nicaraguan people.

On 14 April, about 50 contras entered the Daniel Teler Cooperative in Jinotega Department to harass people and occupy the cooperative. However, the cooperative's self-defense repelled the attack. Another group of contras, seeking to sow terrorism and fear among people, launched a rocket at the Sandinist Police installations located on the outskirts of Las Brumas, which caused no damage. In light of these recent actions, which indicate that the contras have not the least desire to bring peace to Nicaragua, mass organizations, people's militias, and other revolutionary movements are on a state of alert in light of the deadly offensive the contras have attempted to launch over the last few days.

Brush Fire Causes Air Force Bombs To Explode

PA1604203890 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] A brush fire that started in the area surrounding several Sandinist Air Force ammunition depots caused the explosion of very powerful bombs that shook Managua at noontime today. However, the incident caused no casualties, an Air Force source told the "Radio Reports" newscast.

The shock waves damaged some windows in the neighboring Camino Real Hotel, while the Augusto C. Sandino International Airport was closed to local and international flights. Its personnel were evacuated in case other powerful bombs that were stored in the depot exploded.

According to last-minute reports, the fire was brought under control this afternoon by numerous Sinacoi [National Fire Department] units.

Panama

M-20 Group Threatens Government Official

PA1604181590 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 16 Apr 90 p 16 A

[Report by Eduardo Alvarado]

[Text] Members of the clandestine M-20 group, through telephone calls and warnings painted on walls, have threatened Social Security Fund [CSS] Comptroller Rolando Gonzalez Salerno with death.

The M-20 group is a clandestine group that surfaced because of the armed intervention by the U.S. Army on 20 December 1989, known as "Just Cause," for the purpose of ousting the dictator at the time, Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Last week three alleged activists of the rebel movement, who are former members of the defunct National Department of Investigations (Deni), an office of the tyrant's repressive organization, were captured by the police shortly after they kidnapped Mrs. Estela Sanchez Galan de Simmons, wife of the former manager of the National Savings Fund, Jaime Simmons.

In the investigations carried out by the EL PANAMA AMERICA staff regarding the threats against the CSS comptroller, it was learned that there have been similar cases in various parts of the country against top members of the current administration.

Witnesses saw some alleged members of the M-20 get out of a white car to paint slogans threatening the official. On the front wall of the house located on 2d-B Street in Parque Lefebre, they painted a warning that reads: "You will die. M-20."

Rolando Gonzalez Salerno is a prestigious businessman and member of the Panama Chamber of Commerce, who was once a Chamber representative to the CSS Board of Directors. He has also denounced many of the irregularities committed by officials of the Noriega regime.

It was also learned that the CSS has provided Salerno with special surveillance to prevent a possible attack against him.

The Salerno family has been asked to keep the small children inside the house and to adopt other security measures for protection.

Meanwhile, it was learned that approximately 200 members of the M-20 group met two weeks ago at the Juan Diaz Cemetery.

Argentina

Government Proposes Regional 'Mini Marshall Plan'

PY1604125690 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1717 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Apr (NA)—Argentina has informally proposed that the United States launch a "mini-Marshall Plan" to fight drug trafficking in Latin America and to install high-technology radar in Latin America that will be used to detect the flow of drugs in the southern part of the hemisphere.

President Carlos Menem thus answered a question from a reporter of EL CRONISTA COMERCIAL about how he would approach the drug trafficking problem with George Bush's administration.

Menem pointed out that "drug-trafficking involves $600-billion per year, and that the main market is the United States. Latin American countries, particularly Peru and Colombia, are (cocaine) producers."

"Why does the U.S. Government not use at least some of this immense amount of money to develop in Latin America a small 'Marshall Plan' that would serve its own strategic interests and also develop alternative crops and promote the growth of the producing countries?" Menem asked.

Menem added: "For example, why does the United States not give Argentina a high-technology radar system with which to contribute, from the south, to the common fight against drug trafficking?"

He explained that: "We are not (repeat not) asking for charity from the United States, nor that the United States overlook its national priorities. On the contrary, I am asking them to judiciously pursue their basic strategic interests by jointly fighting the problems of drug trafficking with Latin American countries."

Foreign Minister Cavallo on Budapest Meeting

PY1304163690 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2129 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Report by special correspondent Luis Mendoza]

[Text] Budapest, Hungary, 12 Apr (TELAM)—The foreign ministers of the Group of Rio, and Central and East Europe today expressed their support for the democratization process, and the economic opening, that is taking place in several regions of the world. They have agreed to hold another annual meeting in Buenos Aires in the first half of 1991.

At the end of the meeting at the Hungary Government Palace the foreign ministers of the two blocs released a joint declaration in which they point out their mutual interest "in increasing the political, economic, cultural, scientific, and technological exchange between the countries of both regions."

In the two-page document the Latin American foreign ministers from (Argentina, Uruguay, Venezuela, Brazil, Peru, Mexico, and Colombia) and from East Europe (USSR, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, and the GDR) stated that the dialogue they began here "was very useful." They agreed "to hold regular meetings." In this regard, Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo said that the next annual meeting will be held in Buenos Aires during the first half of 1991. He added that they will meet again in New York during the UN General Assembly scheduled for September 1990.

Cavallo told TELAM that it was agreed to hold two meetings a year "that is with the same frequency of those held by West European countries."

Cavallo said: "We found out that the sociopolitical changes are not mere rhetoric. They are actually occurring at a very quick pace in almost all West and East European countries."

Cavallo said that at the Dublin meeting with the EEC foreign ministers he realized that "this change will cause a boom [preceding word in English] in that continent probably during the entire 1990's."

He thinks that this fact "will allow the world economy to continue expanding throughout the 1990's as has also been occurring since 1982. We and the other nations believe that this situation will create commercial opportunities that will favor the integration of the world economy."

He said that all Latin American countries are trying to integrate themselves into the world economy. He added: "We can expect very favorable results in the future."

In this regard he stressed that Latin American countries will hold regular meetings with the EEC and with the East European countries, "to try to take advantage from the trade, investment, and cooperation sectors that can stem from what we expect to be a true boom for Europe and the world."

During a news conference granted by the foreign ministers at the end of the meeting, Cavallo said that privatization of enterprises will begin in central and East European countries. He told TELAM that we should not fret over the possibility that capital from developed countries can be diverted to the East European countries to the detriment of Latin America. "Capital is available in the world. There are countries that are willing to take lots of capital to those offering better conditions. We do not believe that the new opportunities in East Europe will necessarily curtail the flow of capital to Latin America," Cavallo added.

In this regard he said: "Everything will depend on how we face our own problems and on how attractive we make our opportunities."

Cavallo said: "Lots of capital is available, and there will be more as long as the economy expands quickly,"

because "what happened in the past few years is that there have not been appropriate conditions in many countries for foreign investment."

Cavallo, who during the meeting outlined the structural changes being implemented by President Menem's administration, said that conditions "for legal security, economic stability, and enough deregulation to allow a good investment flow" are being created in Latin America. He said that within the framework of an expansion in the world trade and economy, "as can be expected to result from what has happened and from the changes taking place in East Europe, the prospects are very good. We harbor no fears but favorable hopes."

Concerning the commercial exchange with Eastern countries, Cavallo said that there are fluid exchanges with the USSR, Bulgaria, Romania, and Poland, through exports of agricultural products and byproducts.

Cavallo said: "The new decentralization process of these economies, the establishment of private enterprises, the parallel privatization process, the rebuilding of the conditions for a market economy which is also carried out in our country, a frequent exchange of visits by businessmen from Argentina and Eastern countries may allow us to find many other opportunities for manufactured and more industrialized goods that can lead to the diversification of trade."

Cavallo said that Chile, Paraguay, Bolivia, and Ecuador will not join the Group of Rio but that they will remain members of ALADI [Latin American Integration Association], which is the organization in charge of economic matters. The possibility of these countries joining the Group of Rio was mentioned by the Brazilian foreign minister during the news conference held this afternoon.

Following the news conference, Hungarian Acting President Matyas Azuros hosted a reception for the foreign ministers.

Cavallo and the Argentine delegation will leave tomorrow for Madrid from where they will return to Buenos Aires aboard an Argentine airliner. They are expected to arrive at Ezeiza Airport on Saturday morning [21 April].

The text of the joint declaration on the results of the meeting chaired by Venezuelan Foreign Minister Reynaldo Figuereda Planchart and later by his Hungarian counterpart Gyula Horn states:

"On 12 April 1990, the foreign ministers from central and East Europe and from the Group of Rio met in Budapest.

"The ministers exchanged opinions on the countries located in their respective regions and on prospects for relations among central and East European countries and those from Latin America in view of the changes that are occurring in the world.

"During the meeting, the ministers referred to the recent developments and to the prospects for their countries and their regions. In this regard they stressed the process of democratization and socioeconomic changes.

"The ministers emphasized their common interest in increasing the political, economic, cultural, scientific, and technological exchanges among the countries of the two regions. To this effect they outlined several proposals that will then be analyzed.

"This meeting, the first in the history of relations between the two regional groups, has a very significant [word indistinct] for the development of a constructive multilateral dialogue in order to create favorable conditions for an advantageous mutual cooperation.

"The ministers agreed with satisfaction that this meeting is part of the international process of democratization and strengthening of relations.

"The ministers described the dialogue as very positive and agreed to hold regular meetings. The date for the next meeting will be established through diplomatic channels."

Drive for Labor Unity Fails To Establish Agenda

PY1704023490 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 16 Apr 90 p 7

[Excerpt] Mar del Plata—Top labour leaders who met in this coastal city over the weekend to discuss labour unity were reported to have failed completely in their attempts to set an agenda for negotiations.

Lorenzo Miguel (UOM [Metalworkers Union]), Diego Ibanez (SUPE [United Trade Union of State Petroleum Workers] oil workers) and Luis Barrionuevo (National Social Welfare Fund Institute [INOS]) allegedly met for informal talks although they did not get together for dinner at the private home of beef workers union leader Lesio Romero, as had been previously announced.

According to the insiders, the two labour factions—the General Labour Confederation's [CGT] Azopardo branch (led by Saul Ubaldini) and the pro-government CGT-San Martin branch (led by Guerino Andreoni) were unable to bridge their differences and outline unity strategies.

The sides reportedly analyzed the controversial government initiatives to restrict the right to strike as well as the privatization of state-owned companies. But, as in past occasions, the breakdown in talks centred on Ubaldini's position as head of the CGT-Azopardo. While Barrionuevo, who is President Carlos Menem's labour strongman, seeks to oust Ubaldini, Miguel and Ibanez continue to support the hard-line union leader. However, the latter two have also recently strengthened their personal ties with Menem, becoming virtual mediators in the labour tussle.

On restricting the right to strike in order to avoid the breakdown of public services, Miguel and Ibanez said the government should first consult with the unions before passing any pertinent legislation.

For his part, Barrionuevo backed the proposed strike restrictions. As an example, he pointed out that the recent railway strikes "affected the state's assets by increasing the company's deficit; 90 percent of workers went to work while 10 percent, who are the train drivers, failed to do so and practically paralyzed the entire sector, mostly hurting workers and their families."

Regarding the labour leadership conflict, the INOS leader underlined that "if we want unity, we should all be willing to step aside."

Barrionuevo argued that he did not hope to become CGT chief or head of the 62 Organizations (the political branch of the Peronist union movement) and would quit his position at the INOS if so requested by his fellow trade unionists. In this regard, he chided Ubaldini for clinging to his post when "I don't want him as secretary-general (of a united CGT), and neither do the leaders of the CGT-San Martin." [passage omitted]

Bolivia

Defense Minister on U.S. Aid in Antidrug Effort

PY1704014690 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] National Defense Minister Hector Ormachea has said that the U.S. Government should disburse $40 million to the Bolivian Armed Forces, before 30 September 1990, if the Armed Forces is to join the struggle against drug trafficking. The official pointed out that the United States' fiscal year concludes on 30 September 1990. Therefore, if the Bolivian Government is going to define the Armed Forces' participation in the struggle against drug trafficking, it should do so before September and make possible the transfer of the $40 million, offered by the United States, to the Armed Forces.

[Begin Ormachea recording, in progress] ... obviously this offer, and there are many possibilities for the disbursement to be made during the U.S. fiscal year which concludes on 30 September. However, there are also plans to continue with other amounts of support if their participation is confirmed. This would represent support for the Armed Forces. It would undoubtedly improve them, especially their capacity to combat drug trafficking in different forms—all that about the borders which we have just discussed. Our borders are extensive. They are everywhere. Chemicals and numerous contraband items are entering everywhere. Therefore, we must operate in a more appropriate way on the borders, but this is easier said than done. [end recording]

Minister Ormachea said that although the Armed Forces [words indistinct] on the borders, they are in precarious conditions, and it is necessary to have financial resources to cope with this problem and to guarantee effective work by the (?border) units.

The defense minister pointed out that the Armed Forces will not receive any of the assistance offered by the United States if the military does not commit itself to actions to combat the trade and production of illegal drugs.

Paz, Argentina's Menem on Regional Issues, Drugs

PY1604151690 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0020 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] La Paz, 15 Apr (EFE)—Argentine President Carlos Menem today stated that his country is being used for the transit of drugs coming from Bolivia, and asked the United States to implement a sort of a "Marshall Plan" to aid in the struggle against drug trafficking.

Menem said this during his one-day visit to the town of Tarija (in southern Bolivia) after meeting with Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora. Menem then returned to Argentina.

According to Menem, $400 billion of the $600 billion, generated annually by world-wide drug trafficking, are "feeding" the U.S. economy. He asked the U.S. Administration to implement a measure similar to the "Marshall Plan", that helped Europe after World War II, in Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia.

"The United States must understand that drug trafficking will not be eliminated unless better support is granted to the Andean nations that are involved in cocaine production," Menem stated.

Peru and Bolivia produce 90 percent of the coca leaves that are the basic product for the production of the cocaine, which in turn is mostly produced in Colombian laboratories.

In a news conference at 0930 (1530 GMT), before returning to his country, Menem admitted that because of the economic crisis that is affecting the country, Argentina is unable to engage in a stronger fight against illegal drug trafficking. For this reason he demanded better technical assistance for the struggle.

"We do not have a big problem with consumption in my country, but we are concerned with the traffic of drugs," Menem stated. He said that he supports the theory that [word indistinct] Peru, Bolivia, and Colombia to achieve an economy that will help to replace their dependency on the profits obtained from drugs.

Drug trafficking in Bolivia generates $1.5 billion annually, $600 million of which stays in the national economy, according to official Bolivian Government data.

Paz Zamora was also present at the news conference. He stressed his country's efforts in the struggle against drugs, and the replacement of coca-leaf production with agricultural crops.

He added: "A head-on battle must be fought because this is an evil that affects all of mankind. An effort must be made by all nations under the principle of shared responsibility, and in accordance with the individuality of each country."

The Bolivian president stated that he is willing to eradicate coca-leaf production, estimated at 155,000 metric tons yearly, "to a level equivalent to the volume of investments for rural development."

The Argentine president also confirmed the intention of his government to sell Bolivian gas to Brazil and possibly to Chile, as part of an energy integration program that he and Paz Zamora signed in December 1989 in Buenos Aires.

Menem added that the project will have a better chance when Argentina concludes the construction of the gas pipeline linking Argentina and Brazil.

Argentina is the sole purchaser of Bolivian gas, and its purchases represent 40 percent of the Bolivian Government's income.

The Argentine president also stressed the good relations existing with Paz Zamora. He said: "We are friends and we are continuously speaking our concerns over the phone."

Brazil

Central Bank President Discusses Economic Plan

PY1704005690 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 13 Apr 90 p 16

[Interview with Central Bank President Ibrahim Eris by Silvia Faria, Monica Izaguirre, and Ismar Cardona from Eris' office in the Central Bank building; date not given]

[Text] [O GLOBO] How do you rate the progress of the Collor plan?

[Eris] Things are progressing as expected. Basically, the plan has succeeded in the first 30-day period. The people were a bit impatient, but this was predictable. We introduced a profound change. It would be foolish to say that we expected that one provisional measure would allow us to meet our liquidity needs at the right time and place. Obviously we did not expect to achieve that. Consequently, some points we did right and some we did wrong.

The process of irrigation of the economy began on 19 March. At first the people went to the supermarkets because they had done no shopping for a week. Then they began to think about clothing, shoes, leisure, etc. that is how they spent their cruzeiros.

To reach a position of balance in the economy, the cruzeiros should go from retailers to wholesalers, and then to raw-material suppliers. This process takes from 60 to 90 days depending on whether its is a long or short-term production cycle.

[O GLOBO] But there are problems in some sectors....

[Eris] There are sectors that will have problems. Those are the sectors that produce expensive consumer goods, like cars, and capital goods with long production cycles and the civil construction sector that cannot break contracts that have already been signed.

Such cases have been given special treatment. We are considering granting 30-month credits, creating new car purchasing pools, etc.

[O GLOBO] What can the government do to restore the tranquillity of the people?

[Eris] We did have problems with the payment of salaries on 15 March. On 30 March, however, the problems were reduced substantially. Several sectors, which believed that they would have no funds for their payrolls, paid salaries with the income obtained from their sales. There was not much demand for the credit lines which we opened. To 11 April the demand for credits reached only $500 million (Cr 34 billion at black market rates). We believed the demand would be much higher, around $2 billion (Cr 136 billion). This means that many businessmen managed to solve their problems without resorting to credit.

[O GLOBO] What refinements will be made to the plan in its second phase?

[Eris] First we have to see whether we will deregulate prices. Everything seems to indicate that, regardless of any price-control measure, the inflation rate will drop. I believe that price control will be unnecessary. We have to establish the date on which prices may be deregulated, so that we may have a zero inflation rate even without any control measures.

[O GLOBO] Is there any index that will reflect an increase in liquidity in that second phase?

[Eris] We are already raising the level of liquidity. We have implemented several conversion operations for approximately 50 billion cruzeiros (unemployment, sickness). In addition, we will open special credit lines for purchasing capital goods. All mechanisms are being designed in such a manner that, if necessary, that money will return to the Central Bank. These are 60-day rediscount lines. If we feel that the rediscount lines are no longer necessary, the money will return to the Central Bank which will reassign it to other sectors.

[O GLOBO] The government will not release cruzados to help the sectors that are facing problems.

[Eris] By no means. Funds will be supplied through credit operations to financial institutions, which will in turn supply it to each interested party.

[O GLOBO] How will the government release funds without affecting the plan?

[Eris] There is no such possibility. The normal situation for any economy is to base the majority of its financial instruments on long-term, 12- or 18-month savings accounts operations, while a reduced number of such instruments are based on short-term operations.

An 18-month period has been set for the normalization of the economy, in order to avoid the problems with which the cruzado plan had to confront.

When we deregulate the economy, savings accounts' owners will naturally reinvest their money. Any sudden outburst will mean that the plan has failed completely.

[O GLOBO] Will the government design systems for using the cruzados, to reduce the amount being withheld, before the end of the 18-month period?

[Eris] We have a privatization program under which it is possible to buy, in cruzados, at the auctions of government-owned goods like apartments, mansions, etc. We have investment projects in which businessmen may use their cruzados along with the cruzeiros.

[O GLOBO] Are other changes being studied?

[Eris] We have designed a trade policy. We are going to open this country to the outside, gradually increasing imports as well as exports. This is a revolution, and businessmen will have to learn how to compete in the international market. The administrative reform reflects a changed mentality. To tell a public servant that he is dismissed is a revolution; the Central Bank president riding a taxicab is a changed mentality.

[O GLOBO] The sacrifice demanded by the government's plan was not small in comparison with that demanded from the private sector? There are rumors that the money that was frozen will be put to political use....

[Eris] In the first place, neither I nor Minister Cardoso Mello nor President Collor has the frozen funds in their name. There was no confiscation or mandatory loan to the government. The money is owned to the saver; it is in the bank in his name. The president cannot put his hands on those cruzados. There is no doubt that society has been asked to make a great sacrifice in the form of taxes and frozen money. The government, however, is acting within the law. The administrative reform is being carried out within the limitations imposed by the Constitution. We will sell state properties to pay debts, as though they belong to a bankrupt enterprise, with insufficient cash reserves.

[O GLOBO] The Central Bank has been criticized for the shortage of paper money available to the public....

[Eris] When I reported to work on 16 March, I asked about the level of reserves and then ordered that more paper money be immediately printed, because I thought what we had would not be sufficient. However, the demand was less than expected. Of the 35 billion cruzeiros made available, only 4 billion were withdrawn—slightly more than 10 percent. I had estimated 20 percent.

[O GLOBO] But was that amount of printed money not very high?

[Eris] This matter has to be made very clear. The Central Bank is not issuing any money; the mint is. The issuance of money by the mint does not mean an increase in liquidity, but rather a decrease. When people withdraw money from the bank and take it home, they impede the multiplication of that money, which is two-and-a-half times, on the average. The banks loan cruzeiros to third parties, increasing the multiplier effect. The system only has 35 billion cruzeiros, and the way people use it does not change that value.

[O GLOBO] Did the purchase of dollars not have an impact on liquidity?

[Eris] Yes, it had, but not as much as is being said. I purchased $1.7 billion on the market, but I had other commitments. For example, when I took office, imports of $800 million had to be paid for. And we continue to pay multilateral organizations—the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank—as was being done before.

[O GLOBO] When will the government devise mechanisms to attract savings investments for longer periods?

[Eris] We went so far as to think of some reforms to attract savings investments, but decided to postpone the reforms. More urgent is the need to introduce instruments to attract savings that will equate interest rates with length of investment. Investments for one day cannot earn the same as investments for one year. We will give fiscal and financial incentives to increase the time for which savings held. Next week we will have news on this matter.

President Collor Reverses Veto on Minimum Salary

PY1604162090 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 15 Mar 90 p 1

[Text] The Planalto Palace Press Secretariat has attributed President Fernando Collor's decision, to veto the bimonthly 6.09 percent increase in the minimum salary as of July, to a "bureaucratic error."

A readjustment of this point was negotiated between the government and congressional leaders during the voting on Provisional Measure 154. The error surprised the government policy-makers and will be corrected tomorrow with the publication of Law 8030 in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE. Justice Minister Bernardo

Cabral has voiced his assurance that all changes introduced in the Collor Plan, through agreements between party leaderships, will be maintained during the promulgation of the laws. Deputy Euclides Scalco (PSDB - PR) [Brazilian Social Democratic Party - Parana State], who participated in the negotiations, said the presidential veto on the minimum salary has discredited the leadership. Moreover, he said, the veto was made with the approval of the Economy Ministry.

Justice Minister To Attend OAS Antidrug Meeting

PY1704030490 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Justice Minister Bernardo Cabral will participate in the meeting of OAS member countries' ministers, to discuss drug-traffic control, to be held in Mexico from 19 to 20 April. Brazil is willing to reach any possible agreement on strict measures against drug traffic, provided those agreements do not, in any way, violate our country's sovereignty, said Justice Minister Cabral, who tomorrow will depart for Mexico, where the ministers will meet.

[Begin Cabral recording] Brazil will make every possible effort in this battle against international crime. The drug trafficking problems has gained such an importance that any less-determined attitude would be an omission. Brazil will not lapse into omission. It will only reserve for its government the right to control actions in its own territory. [end recording] [passage omitted]

* Structure of S & T Secretariat Defined

90SM0011A Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Mar 90 p 14

[Article by Rubens Santos]

[Text] Brasilia—Jose Goldemberg, secretary of science and technology, decided to make the first bold stroke of his administration, without causing friction in the scientific community. To this end, with the support of the Brazilian Society for the Advancement of Science (SBPC), he announced his intention to bring all the scientific and technological sectors into harmony by reactivating and increasing the power of the Council of Science and Technology (CCT), a collegiate body directed by all the representatives of the area of research. The CCT will be responsible for expediting the transfer of resources from the funding agencies to the laboratories and research scientists.

"The idea is to do away with all the 'Lithuanias,' these independent states that exist within a single system," Goldemberg declared, explaining that in recent years such organs as the CNPq [National Council for Scientific and Technological Development] and the FINEP (Funding Authority for Studies and Projects), which coordinate research projects and funding, have been enmeshed in a gigantic and complex bureaucratic web, speaking such different languages among themselves that, instead of fostering research, they have been creating barriers for the sector.

To achieve his goal, Goldemberg is banking on the economic plan of Minister Zelia Cardoso de Mello, which could result in increased funding for the secretariat's budget, which would thus jump from the planned $1 billion to close to $2 billion. For this to happen, the plan to contain expenditures and curtail the bureaucratic machine, along with reduced public expenditures and the collection of revenues, will have to show results at short range.

"I believe the plan will work and we will achieve a budget of at least $1.3 billion," Goldemberg said. In his opinion, even this much would mean a large advance for the sector. The secretary wants to reduce the administrative machinery in his area, but he does not yet have any idea of where to begin or how many of the 620 employees will be dismissed. In a bolder plan, he revealed that he wants the secretariat to take in programs and investments in the nuclear power sector. Physicist Goldemberg has served in public posts only in the last seven years. He has been director of the CESP [Sao Paulo Electric Power Plants, Inc.], dean of the University of Sao Paulo, and state secretary of education. In leaving the laboratory to become a technocrat, he became vulnerable to criticism from his research colleagues, a situation that he intends to overcome now, using tact. "He has our support," promises Ennio Candotti, president of the SBPC, suggesting that Goldemberg's "glass house" will be safe from stones, at least for the time being.

The new secretary wants the organizational chart of his secretariat to include the INPI (National Institute of Industrial Property), which Collor's advisors submitted to the Justice Ministry for approval last week; EMBRAPA [Brazilian Agricultural and Livestock Research Enterprise); and coordination of the Brazilian Nuclear Program.

* Army Receives First Battery of Astros II

90SM0011D Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 7 Mar 90 p 11

[Article by Roberto Godoy]

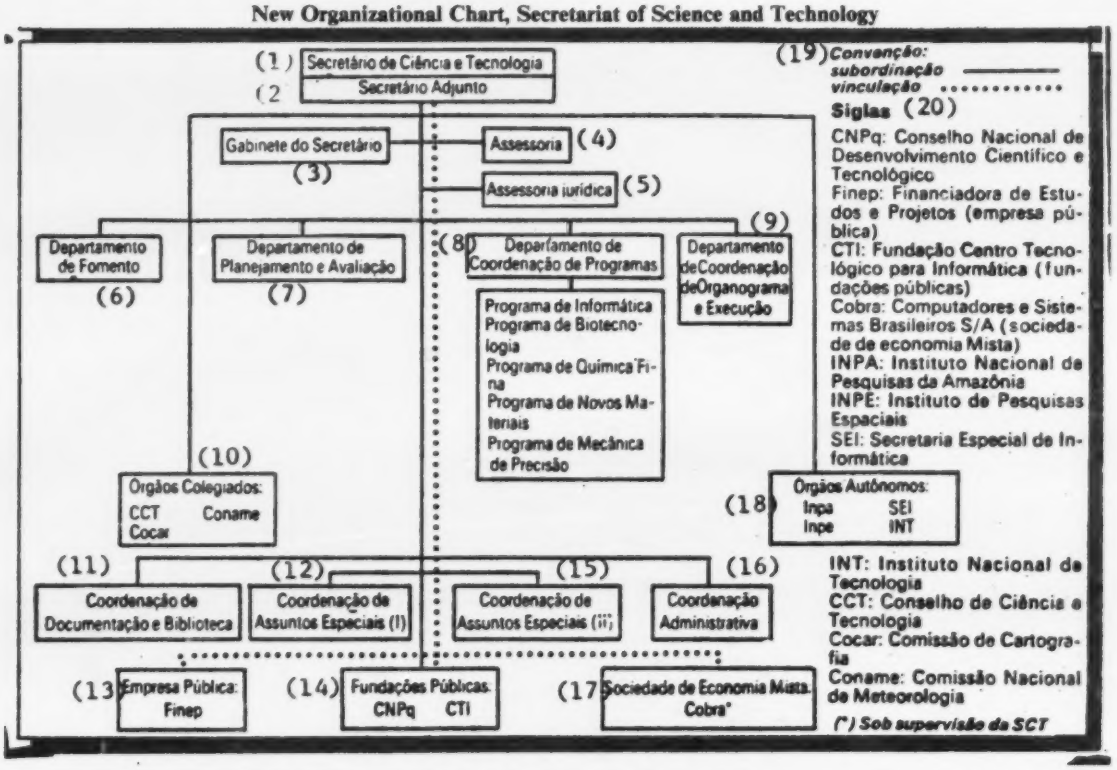
[Text] Between 1981 and 1987, the Astros II system, a multicaliber launcher for saturation missiles, made $1 billion in international sales for its manufacturer, Avibras Aeroespacial [Avibras Aerospace Industry, Inc.], of Sao Jose dos Campos. During that period, the Astros II was used massively by the Iraqi forces against Iran in the Persian Gulf war, receiving special mention by the Baghdad High Command as a decisive factor in the battle for the city of Fao. It drove five of the eight competing products out of the market and merited an analysis by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which found it "advanced and effective."

Despite the launcher's noteworthy record, however, the Brazilian Army is only now acquiring the Astros II; the first battery of the system purchased by the nation's land force will be delivered today to Minister Leonidas Pires Goncalves at the Formosa proving grounds, near Brasilia.

The four trailers and two reloaders will cost "significantly less than the list price," according to an official of the DMB (War Materiel Department). The average price quoted for the equipment is $10 million. The package purchased by the Army does not include the Electronic Firing Center.

The Brazilian purchase will be financed by Avibras, which intends to use it as a reference in marketing the rocket launcher. "Several potential buyers require that the equipment offered for sale in any negotiation must be in use by the defense forces of the supplying country," explained Engineer Pedro Vial, the company's director of official relations.

New Organizational Chart, Secretariat of Science and Technology


(1) Secretário de Ciência e Tecnologia
(2) Secretário Adjunto
(3) Gabinete do Secretário
(4) Assessoria
(5) Assessoria jurídica
(6) Departamento de Fomento
(7) Departamento de Planejamento e Avaliação
(8) Departamento de Coordenação de Programas
Programa de Informática
Programa de Biotecnologia
Programa de Química Fina
Programa de Novos Materiais
Programa de Mecânica de Precisão
(9) Departamento de Coordenação de Organograma e Execução
(10) Orgãos Colegiados: CCT Coname Cocar
(11) Coordenação de Documentação e Biblioteca
(12) Coordenação de Assuntos Especiais (I)
(15) Coordenação de Assuntos Especiais (II)
(16) Coordenação Administrativa
(13) Empresa Pública: Finep
(14) Fundações Públicas: CNPq CTI
(17) Sociedade de Economia Mista: Cobra*
(18) Orgãos Autônomos: Inpa SEI Inpe INT
(19) Convenção: subordinação vinculação
(20) Siglas
CNPq: Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico
Finep: Financiadora de Estudos e Projetos (empresa pública)
CTI: Fundação Centro Tecnológico para Informática (fundações públicas)
Cobra: Computadores e Sistemas Brasileiros S/A (sociedade de economia Mista)
INPA: Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia
INPE: Instituto de Pesquisas Espaciais
SEI: Secretaria Especial de Informática
INT: Instituto Nacional de Tecnologia
CCT: Conselho de Ciência e Tecnologia
Cocar: Comissão de Cartografia
Coname: Comissão Nacional de Meteorologia
(*) Sob supervisão da SCT

Jose Goldemberg revised the initial organizational chart of the Secretariat of Science and Technology [SCT], which omitted such organs as the FINEP and CNPq.

Key: 1. Secretary of Science and Technology 2. Assistant Secretary 3. Office of the Secretary 4. Advisory 5. Legal Counsel 6. Funding Department 7. Department of Planning and Evaluation 8. Department of Program Coordination-Computer Program-Biotechnology Program-Refined Chemicals Program-New Materials Program-Precision Machinery Program 9. Department of Organizational Coordination, Execution 10. Collegiate Organs: CCT, Cocar, Coname 11. Coordination of Documentation and Records 12. Coordination of Special Affairs 13. Public Enterprise: FINEP 14. Public Foundations: CNPq, CTI 15. Coordination of Special Affairs 16. Administrative Coordination 17. Mixed Corporation: Cobra (under the supervision of SCT) 18. Independent Agencies: INPA, INPE, SEI, INT 19. Convention: subordinated, connected 20. Abbreviations: CNPq: National Council for Scientific and Technological Development-FINEP: Funding Authority for Studies and Projects (public enterprise)-CTI: Computer Technology Center (public foundation)-Cobra: Brazilian Computers and Systems, Inc.-INPA: National Institute for Amazon Region Research-INPE: National Institute of Space Research -SEI: Special Secretariat of Computer Science-INT: National Institute of Technology-CCT: Council of Science and Technology-Cocar: Cartography Commission -Coname: National Meteorology Commission

The group is facing serious financial problems, caused primarily by Iraq's bad debt of $40 million, a situation which has led to a freeze on delivery of a new lot of supplies, valued at $100 million. "The exaggerated exchange rate differential has also hurt us," Vial said.

At this time Avibras Aeroespacial is in composition, administering an outstanding debt of $200 million, of which $80 million will be paid in January 1991 and the remaining $120 million by the end of 1982. Although the personnel roll has been cut drastically from 5,500 to about 1,000 employees, none of the strategic programs has been halted; research is proceeding normally on the development of a national technology for fiber optics, the MACMPTV-laser-guided antitank missile program and the program for space components.

Meanwhile, the "piece de resistance" continues to be the Astro II system, the personal creation of engineer Joao Verdi de Carvalho Leite, president of the corporation. Earning four consecutive export records for Avibras, the equipment has been purchased by Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Bahrain, in addition to Iraq. The Astros II is based on the principle of agility.

* Engesa Asks Court Aid in Debt Liquidation

90SM0011C Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Mar 90 p 7

[Article by Roberto Godoy]

[Text] Just 2 days after having dismissed 500 employees, with no funds to pay the wages of the 2,100 employees remaining from its full roster of 12,000, Engesa [Specialized Engineers, Inc.], which manufactures combat vehicles, armored cars on wheels, munitions, military electronic systems, truck tractors, and jeeps, yesterday presented a request to the Sao Paulo court for preventive composition for a debt estimated at $150 million (about $8.5 billion cruzados).

None of the directors of the group, which had 13 subsidiaries by 1987, commented on the crisis. Jose Luiz Whitaker Ribeiro, president of Engesa, is in the Middle East and the vice president, Joise Guilherme Whitaker Ribeiro, confined himself to releasing a communique on behalf of the directorate, informing that "the decision was made prior to the recent measures adopted by the federal government to combat inflation " and stressing: "We are certain that, with the credibility that the current administration is restoring in our country, Engesa should soon resume its normal pace of exports."

Crisis Since 1986

Engesa is the second company in the sector to request the intervention of the court in liquidating its debt by court-approved agreement. In January, Avibras Aeroespacial [Avibras Aerospace Industry, Inc.], of Sao Jose dos Campos, which produces the Astros II multicaliber rocket launcher, chemical propellants, telecommunications systems, parabolic antennas, and space services, also entered into a composition for a debt, at that time, of $200 million. Both organizations intend to liquidate their debts by 1993.

Engesa's problems began to worsen in 1986, when the government adopted the policy of the exchange differential. On that occasion, Engepeq [Engineering Research], the subsidiary responsible for product development, spent $50 million on the Osorio EE-T1 heavy tank project and also hired another 300 engineers. The company's stability was seriously compromised in 1988, after which it began to make personnel cuts and sold off some parts of the business conglomerate.

* Initial Reform Said To Save $1.6 Billion

90SM0011B Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Mar 90 p 7

[Text] Brasilia—Joao Santana, secretary of federal administration, said yesterday that the first phase of the administrative reform has already resulted in a savings of $1.6 billion for the state. With the measures adopted this week, 28 state companies and 24 foundations and independent agencies have been eliminated. The secretary does not know how many of the 35,000 civil servants employed by these organs were dismissed or the number of civil servants who, protected by job stability, are available for placement.

In addition to having 600,000 new cruzados in short-term investments and in savings deposits frozen, Santana, a 36-year-old native of Sao Paulo, is also obliged to put up with a Federal Police agent who follows his footsteps 24 hours a day. Responsible for the administrative reform of the federal government, which includes the elimination of agencies, dismissal of civil servants, and the sale of government properties, the secretary says his task would be easier if the Constitution had not instituted job stability.

In the case of high-level advisory posts, the so-called FAS and DAS [not further expanded], civil servants do not have job stability and more than 6,000 posts have been eliminated. "The payroll savings are very large," he assured. "But it is necessary to make a case-by-case study of who will be dismissed and who will remain on the roster." Santana cited SIDERBRAS [Brazilian Iron and Steel, Inc.] as an example of how the administrative reform will represent real savings. The state company is more than $12 billion in debt. "The elimination of this company gives some idea of what we will be saving," he declared.

Real Estate

The next step in the reform will be to put 80 government-owned mansions up for auction within the next 10 days. As Santana explained, the properties are being assessed to ensure that they will be sold at market prices.

Apartments for government employees—10,300 in Brasilia alone—are to be sold within 60 days, on completion of a survey on the irregular use of these properties, conducted through a contract with the University of Brasilia.

Chile

Relatives of Political Prisoners Demonstrate

PY1704035690 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] The courthouse guard forcefully dispersed another demonstration by a group of about 50 relatives of the so-called political prisoners who had entered the first floor, waving placards with photographs of the Supreme Court justices, and shouting slogans against the judicial branch.

The guard instructed the demonstrators to clear the building. The incidents did not require the presence of the carabineros, as did a previous incident in which the justices were verbally and physically attacked.

The courthouse guard, a 12-man permanent gendarmerie corps, has been reinforced since early April with another 15 gendarmerie personnel, who are working in shifts when there is a lot of traffic at the courthouse.

Almeyda Offered Ambassadorial Post in USSR

PY1704040390 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] The government will open the Chilean Embassy in the Soviet Union in the next few days. The diplomatic mission will be headed by Minister Counselor Emilio Ruiz Tagle until the Foreign Ministry appoints an ambassador. The government has offered this post to the president of the Socialist Party [Clodomiro Almeyda], who reported that, for personal and political reasons, he has not yet decided if he will accept the offer. He indicated that he will soon announce his decision.

Emilio Ruiz Tagle is a career diplomat. He worked in the Chilean Embassy in Montevideo recently.

* Future of Chilean Socialism Discussed

90SM0001A Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 4 Mar 90 pp 8-9D

[Interview with Chilean Socialist Party Secretary General Jorge Arrate by Pilar Molina Armas: "The Crisis in Chilean Socialism"; in Santiago, date not given; first three paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] Jorge Arrate, the secretary general of the Chilean Socialist Party (PSCh), is a pleasant, straightforward man. He is not just another automaton. He truly represents Chilean socialism after last December's reunification of the factions of Clodomiro Almeyda, who stayed on as president of the new party, the "renewal" faction, which Arrate heads, and MAPU [United Popular Action Movement].

Accustomed as he is to discussions of ideology, he was not intimidated when we raised the topic of the interview with him: What does socialism have to offer today after its string of defeats in Eastern Europe and now in Nicaragua.

His bright yellow, walled-in home in the Bellavista district suggests that he is a different sort of man. And indeed he is. He does not show one iota of ill will after 14 years in exile. His office is located in a well-lit attic reached by a narrow staircase crowned by a poster of Marilyn Monroe on the landing. The computer is on. He toys with his pipe. The large poster of Salvador Allende recalls his activism as he expounds on democratic values and liberty. Suddenly it seems as if through its crises socialism has shaken off ideologies and retained its grievances.

[EL MERCURIO] In the face of socialism's failure in Central Europe and now in Nicaragua, are you worried about proposing the same model that today is beset by crisis throughout the world?

[Arrate] I don't agree with your statement. I think that, on the contrary, we Chilean Socialists have a tradition of having consistently and insistently advanced a highly critical view of the experience of the Soviet Union and the East European bloc. This can be found in time-honored documents of the Socialist Party (PS). If today you read Eugenio Gonzalez, who in 1945 spoke of the "tragic Soviet experience," you get the impression that you're reading, 40 years before its time, a Gorbachev speech to the Central Committee of the Soviet Union. During my 20-odd years as a Socialist I have always been of this mind.

[EL MERCURIO] But that's the position of Clodomiro Almeyda's faction. A minority of Socialists have criticized the experience of Eastern Europe.

[Arrate] That's not true. I think that this has been the great tradition of the PS since its founding, all the way through 1957, under the foreign-relations accords that Raul Ampuero signed, and under the Allende program, which was Chilean and critical of other experiences. Now then, within this tradition there have been nuances in assessing the significance of the experience of the socialist countries of Eastern Europe; that is true. And 11 years ago, when the PS split, this was an issue that was very much present. And today it is an issue that does not warrant the existence of separate organizations, although there are still nuances.

The Almeyda "Nuance"

[EL MERCURIO] There are more than nuances, because your party's president, Clodomiro Almeyda, went to East Germany to celebrate another anniversary of the Republic a week before the government fell.

[Arrate] Clodomiro Almeyda was a prisoner on Dawson Island and when he was finally released, he went to live in the GDR, where he was granted asylum, and I think that those of us who have been in exile do not forget the countries that took us in. I think that he attended the GDR anniversary as an act of solidarity and gratitude.

[EL MERCURIO] You too lived in the GDR for 2 years. If they had invited you, would you also have gone and celebrated with Honecker?

[Arrate] If my party had decided that its secretary general ought to be at the celebration, I would have abided by its decision, although (he says, smiling mischievously) I would have voted against it.

[EL MERCURIO] It's odd, though, for a party that criticizes a regime to want to take part in its celebrations.

[Arrate] Things are not black and white. There are gray areas here, and we have to stop seeing things as good or evil. One can legitimately criticize what's happening in a country and still visit it.

[EL MERCURIO] And where is the gray area when Almeyda states that the people fleeing the GDR in trains were young students playing tourist?

[Arrate] I did not agree with that remark and I said so publicly.

Terminal Crisis

[EL MERCURIO] So setting aside the stance of your party's president, you [plural] support the socialism that is emerging today in the GDR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, and Romania.

[Arrate] We're a Chilean party that has never joined international movements that might affect our autonomy. Therefore, the issue is not what the PSCh supports. We are seeing, as everyone is, that there is a crisis, in my judgment a terminal crisis, of a historical Stalinist-communist model that began with the October Revolution in 1917.

[EL MERCURIO] The Europeans are speaking of a crisis of socialism, not communism.

[Arrate] Although the major socialist forces in Western Europe were always highly critical of the experiences in the East, so much so that they denied that they were socialist, it is true that socialism in general throughout the world is faced with a crisis of reconstruction and must work hard today to reformulate, to refine a model and an agenda that is being debated everywhere. The Socialist parties that were being persecuted have reemerged in Eastern Europe. In Poland or in Hungary. The political picture is being redrawn, and we're watching this very carefully.

[EL MERCURIO] What substance is there left to socialism after it is stripped of its ideological pillars—the dictatorship of the proletariat, the worker revolution? Does it move towards a market economy and freedom with a multiparty system and democratic elections?

[Arrate] I think that some friend from the communist faction could answer those questions better, because I've never been in favor of the dictatorship of the proletariat. I've said so in writing.

What Do They Have To Offer?

[EL MERCURIO] But what do you have to offer the Chilean people now that 40 years of socialism have been thrown out and there is a move toward the values of Western democracy? Are you ceasing to be socialists?

[Arrate] I don't think that we're ceasing to be socialists; rather, we're rebuilding a model, salvaging socialism's historical philosophical foundations. I can tell you honestly that no other political movement in the world has fought as consistently for freedom, equality, solidarity, and participation. These grand values of our philosophy remain standing and are successful in many countries in the world. If we look at the experience of Spanish socialism and how Spain under Felipe Gonzalez has developed, joined Europe, liberalized, with each citizen having a chance for material betterment but also for much spiritual betterment through greater freedom...this has been the accomplishment of a party that draws its inspiration from the socialist philosophy. And the tragic and catastrophic experience of the East European countries and the practice of the Western Social Democratic movement contain key elements that we can salvage to rebuild a Chilean socialist model, such as, for example, firm support for democratic values.

[EL MERCURIO] What distinguishes you [plural], then, since this value is not exclusive to socialists?

[Arrate] The fact that no one has fought as strongly as we traditionally have to further individual freedom, to extend equality, to base society on principles of solidarity, not selfishness, to broaden participation, and to seek new forms of social balance.

[EL MERCURIO] How can you aspire to a socialism that is nowhere to be seen in the world, because you haven't liked the varieties that have existed?

[Arrate] I think that nowadays neither capitalism nor socialism has a model. What we are seeing is a continuation of capitalist and socialist experiences that are distinct combinations of a market with government intervention, of forms of mixed, public, and private ownership. The tendency has been for the differences over these matters to be much smaller than they were 20 years ago. I think that the important thing today is not to make a model out of socialism in order to build a determined architecture of what a society ought to be. I think that when all is said and done, what defines and distinguishes socialism very clearly from other views is that in the social edifice we look out the window of the workers, the excluded, those whose rights have been impaired, those who are enduring injustice. This is our

moral and ethical view, and what distinguishes socialists is that they identify with these sectors, although others may also.

Castro Must Democratize

[EL MERCURIO] Does your party support Fidel Castro's dictatorship?

[Arrate] We do not support any dictatorship; we have taken a stand for democracy. We Chilean Socialists of this generation have very strong emotional ties with Cuba because the Cuban revolution had an impact on us as young people.

[EL MERCURIO] Haven't you been disappointed?

[Arrate] I would like to see Cuba have a political opening and restore liberties, pluralism, and the democratic system, as is happening all over the world. Fidel Castro could make a gesture of great significance for socialism in the world if he were able to democratize Cuba. And if he did so, he would have a chance to win.

[EL MERCURIO] In other words, Castro is discrediting socialism.

[Arrate] If he continues his rigid position and fails to acknowledge a trend that is worldwide today, the renovation of socialism, I think he's making a mistake.

[EL MERCURIO] Given this renovation, which means democratizing and freeing up the economy, would socialism's hallmark, that which distinguishes it from the other Western democracies, be reduced merely to an emphasis on combating inequalities?

[Arrate] The difference is that under the pretext that we are going to have a society with greater wealth and equality for all, the road that is being built towards this destination tends to accentuate inequalities. And no one has yet explained to me by what act of magic inequalities are going to disappear when that moment arrives. Our stance is radically different. We want to have a society with these features, but to reach it along a road that gradually lessens these inequalities. I'm not in favor of sacrificing one or two generations of a country's poor today and saying that their grandchildren are going to enjoy equality. Therefore, I reject the ideas of extreme laissez-faire, just as I reject the ideas of a Ceausescu, who probably justified his dictatorship and handling of the economy in the same way.

Leninism

[EL MERCURIO] Would you suggest naming a Socialist as an ambassador to one of the East European countries?

[Arrate] Why not?

[EL MERCURIO] Would you think of appointing one as ambassador to Czechoslovakia when its president, Vaclav Havel, indicated a month before taking over that "socialism long ago became just a cudgel that certain bureaucrats use against their fellow citizens who are in favor of freedom"?

[Arrate] I think that he's talking about the form of socialism that existed in Czechoslovakia, but surely he's not talking about Alexander Dubcek, the president of Parliament, whose vision of socialism he would surely not repudiate. Havel might not agree with it, though.

(According to Arrate, the combination of 40 years of lack of freedom and economic crisis was what touched off the uprisings in Eastern Europe. He adds that these were not the first. There was Hungary in 1956 and the "Prague Spring" in 1968, both of which were crushed by Soviet tanks.)

The very next day the Chilean PS condemned the Soviet intervention. Just like when Afghanistan was invaded.

[EL MERCURIO] And yet in 1967 you [plural] approved of violent methods for gaining power.

[Arrate] You're getting me into a very complex and important topic that I cannot explain in one sentence. The PS line in 1967 was, in my judgment, a deviation and an anomaly in the overall history of Chilean socialism.

[EL MERCURIO] So what are we to believe: what you would like things to be or what the PS has actually been?

[Arrate] Socialism in Chile has been part of the governments of Pedro Aguirre, Ibanez, and will be part of Patricio Aylwin's. It has been a party that has always exercised its rights democratically. What happened in 1967 was a pseudo-revolutionary verbal outburst. If you look at the facts, 3 years later the party was involved in getting Salvador Allende elected.

[EL MERCURIO] And was it also a deviation when socialism endorsed Marxism-Leninism in 1967?

[Arrate] In my judgment, yes. The PS was founded in 1933, and that decision was made hastily, with a certain degree of political frivolity, and today it doesn't square with the PSCh as a whole. It is not part of its philosophical foundations, even though there are Socialists who have a legitimate interest in and appreciation for Lenin's political experience, and I find that a legitimate position within the PSCh.

[EL MERCURIO] Did Clodomiro Almeyda, your president, renounce Leninism in order to forge unity as the PSCh?

[Arrate] No one has had to renounce anything to come together in the PSCh that we have established. One of the central points on which we have agreed is that socialism is indeed a movement that has a major worldwide variation that is going through a crisis, and we have decided that we can live together in a single party without anyone having to suffer the humiliation of renouncing anything.

[EL MERCURIO] But how can there be unity with Leninists if you feel that Leninism is a deviation from socialism?

[Arrate] It's a deviation for the Socialist Party, as an organization, to define itself as Marxist-Leninist. I couldn't belong to a party like that, because thus defined it is all-embracing, all-encompassing. It's different when there are individuals inside it who still think that Lenin's experience is important. Now then, if there's anyone who thinks that Marxism-Leninism, as it was understood 20 years ago, as it is codified in the Soviet texts, is still a useful and valid theory for the social struggle and the building of socialism...I regret that and hope that they see the light soon; I don't think it will take much longer.

[EL MERCURIO] Is that a message for Clodomiro Almeyda?

[Arrate] I've known him for many years. I think highly of him (he adds smiling), and I don't need to send him messages. He's a man of very sophisticated thought that cannot be simplified.

[EL MERCURIO] That's what's the matter with Socialists. They're so complicated!

[Arrate] If the agenda was just to make more money, it would be simple to explain, but ours is a complicated one.

A Corrected Market

(One of the complexities is the economic model that they accept: the market, but corrected.)

[EL MERCURIO] Do you reject the possibility that social injustices can be corrected within a market economy by a subsidiary State?

[Arrate] Careful with semantics. I want there to be no doubt that I'm in favor of a market economy, which is a fundamental tool for a country's economic growth and the development of free enterprise. But I'm not in favor of turning a blind eye to the effects that the workings of the marketplace demonstrably have, as it tends to create unjust social and economic inequalities. Sectors like the workers cannot be left at the mercy of market forces.

[EL MERCURIO] The consequences of the economic crisis that certain sectors have suffered cannot be attributed to the marketplace but rather to the crisis.

[Arrate] No. There's an ideological stand here on the issue of the marketplace that many spokesmen of this regime have promoted, as they have tended to put the workers in the same category as other pieces of merchandise that are bought and sold in society, thus subjecting them to the same rules. To buy and sell labor like chewing gum is unacceptable to a socialist.

(Although he acknowledges the economic accomplishments of recent years in the financial market, productivity, and employment, he notes that the subsidiary State was not active enough.)

The proof is the official statistics, which show that over the past 16 years in Chile the top 10 or 20 percent of the income scale accounted for a larger share of national income, while the poorer segments accounted for a smaller percentage.

Defeat of Sandinism

[EL MERCURIO] The DC [Christian Democrat Party], which heads your government, hailed the return to democracy represented by Ortega's defeat in Nicaragua. Do you see it this way too, or in your judgment did the election that the Sandinists lost not involve a choice between dictatorship and democracy?

[Arrate] No, there were two candidates who had decided to put Nicaragua on the path towards a democratic system. Mine didn't win.

[EL MERCURIO] Why did you like Ortega? Did you support a police State, massive expropriations, the collectivization of land, a compulsory military draft, the Sandinist National Liberation Army?

[Arrate] No (he says without losing his patience). I supported the Latin American nationalist and people's movement that was able to overthrow the worst sort of dictatorship.

[EL MERCURIO] Agreed, but Violeta Chamorro fought Somoza too. She was part of the Sandinist government but withdrew when she saw its ideals betrayed.

[Arrate] I find her position legitimate, but I think that the Sandinist Front was trying, and I hope it keeps on trying, to carry forward a process of socialist reconstruction in Nicaragua through democratic actions.

[EL MERCURIO] But Ortega's was not a democratic regime for 10 years. So I don't see why you don't reject it.

[Arrate] Because even if it wasn't, it contained an important seed of pluralism and development in a democratic direction. A major effort was being made to build socialism, while acknowledging the rights of the other forces that weren't socialist. You can't compare Nicaragua with the regimes in Eastern Europe. You also have to bear in mind, and I'm not trying to justify any mistakes, that this regime was fighting a civil war and being blockaded by the United States.

(As for the mistakes of the Sandinist Front, Arrate says that it acted with a certain degree of arrogance and parochialism and that there was insufficient pluralism. But he speaks bluntly about Ortega's defeat:)

I would like to see democracy fully restored in Nicaragua. The Sandinist Front would gain prestige if it transferred power without any conditions.

The DC as Ally

[EL MERCURIO] You have indicated that Chilean socialism has to look more to the left than to the center. Why are you [plural] with the DC government, not with the PC [Communist Party], which according to your program under discussion aspires "to the construction of socialism in Chile"?

[Arrate] What I have contended is that the PS is on the left and that I want to see it represent these democratic forces in Chile.

[EL MERCURIO] But your party's goal is the construction of socialism in Chile.

[Arrate] (hesitating) I wouldn't be so bold as to design for you, as Socialists 20 years ago did, a model of the socialist society that we aspire to. I am more inclined to feel that socialism is a great process of social change in the direction of greater freedom, equality, and social justice. A process in which I aspire, as a utopia, to a society that I have called one of just differences. What are just differences? That's the problem. This is a historic concept that changes over time. In the Greece of Pericles the difference between citizens and slaves seemed just; no one rebelled against it. Socialism is basically a process of struggle in this direction.

[EL MERCURIO] And in this process the Christian Democrats are better allies of socialism than the communists. This is why you [plural] are supporting the Christian Democrat government.

[Arrate] We've had substantial political differences with the PC. In contrast, we've agreed with the DC on very fundamental issues for Chile, such as the restoration of democracy and a program for the transition period. And the DC is today our main political ally.

[EL MERCURIO] By lending stability to a centrist government, aren't you renouncing your process of socialist change?

[Arrate] If there's anything that I have learned, it's that one must not make very long-range predictions; one makes mistakes. And in the second place, history poses specific challenges to different political forces at different junctures. The challenge today is not to build a socialist society on the moon, to make a caricature of it. What history demands of us Socialists in Chile today is to help rebuild a fully democratic system, and in fulfilling this objective we're going to fight to deepen and spread democracy.

[EL MERCURIO] So as allies of the DC you're ruling out the PC's current proposal to rebuild socialism in Chile with all leftist forces.

[Arrate] I don't rule anything out in politics, on principle. But our agenda today, the socialist agenda, does not call for the reestablishment of any organizational entity that brings together the political forces of the left, and I would say to you that this is going to be the case as long as there is not a clearer view of the crisis that some of their sectors are going through and of how we are putting together our projects. I want Chile to have a great Socialist Party of a democratic and modern left that can attract various political forces with this tradition into this mainstream.

[EL MERCURIO] And when should socialism and the DC part ways?

[Arrate] When Volodia Teitelboim was asked at a press conference when there was going to be organizational unity between the PS and PC, he told them to ask Nostradamus (laughs). I thought that was a good answer.

Colombia

Government Denies Violence, Blames Ultraright

PA1604194390 Paris AFP in Spanish
1757 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] Bogota, 16 Apr (AFP)—While reporting the existence of violence "promoted and concealed by the ultraright," the Colombian Government denied today that there has been state violence in the country.

"It is a violence that has been promoted and concealed," Government (Interior) Minister Horacio Serpa said, adding that "some authorities at some levels have unfortunately participated in this."

Violence in Colombia appeared at the end of the 1940's and increased during the following decade with the emergence of outlaws and guerrillas who still operate in various zones in the country.

During an interview with the Bogota newspaper EL TIEMPO, Serpa said, "The excesses of the armed far left wing, with its radicalism and outrages, created the suitable climate for the counterrevolutionary struggle."

"That struggle has generated a dirty war that still prevails in the country," he said.

Serpa, 45 years old and a left-wing liberal who joined the government of President Virgilio Barco in late March, maintained today that there will be guerrillas in Colombia "as long as social inequalities persist." He added that the guerrillas had failed as a political project in the country and also said that "nothing justifies the continuation of their violent and subversive actions."

"Colombia cannot tolerate any more violence," he said. Serpa said that economic and social inequalities, hunger, unemployment, illiteracy, and unequal opportunities ease the guerrillas' struggle.

He also ruled out the possibility of granting amnesty to the peasant self-defense groups and the paramilitary groups, which in the past five years have intensified their violence.

"Amnesty can only be granted to those who commit political crimes. Common criminals are excluded from this benefit," Serpa said, also ruling out this benefit for drug traffickers.

Serpa said the government of President Barco, which ends on 7 August, will not hold a dialogue with drug barons, and reiterated the government will continue granting extradition. Serpa clarified that, although he is a "conceptual enemy" of extradition, he nevertheless considers it a good way to fight narcoterrorists.

Asked about the possibility of extraditing Medellin Cartel chief Pablo Escobar Gaviria, Serpa believes "the state should fight him." He said the government "wants to get hold of him."

"Once Escobar is in the hands of the authorities, they will know what to do with him," Serpa concluded.

Leftist Coalition Leader Outlines Goals

PA1604152190 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 11 Apr 90 p 7A

[Report on interview with Angelino Garzon, founding member of the Democratic Convergence left-wing coalition, by Maria del Rosario Arrazola; date and place not given]

[Text] A communist by education, a socialist by conviction, and a trade unionist almost by birth, Angelino Garzon is one of the architects of the political movement created 15 days ago in Bogota with Carlos Pizarro, Diego Montana, Carlos Bula, and Adalberto Carvajal.

Even though he has been a member of the Communist Party (PC) for 17 years, has held leadership positions in it, and seven months ago was elected vice president of the Patriotic Union (UP), his "splintering" ideas have rankled old-guard Marxist-Leninists.

The bickering grew worse when, accompanied by Bernardo Jaramillo Ossa and Diego Montana Cuellar, Garzon began talking about the need to consolidate a movement of a social democratic and pluralistic type.

However, relations with the comrades reached the point of no return on 14 November, when, during a meeting of the PC Executive Committee, Garzon submitted a motion that was neither discussed nor made known to the communist rank and file.

Little wonder. In it, Garzon raised the need to work for the establishment of a convergence movement "to serve as a new school for communists to receive training in the concepts of pluralism and tolerance."

He added that following a course of disciplinary measures or a strict enforcement of democratic centralism as a means to settle internal differences or to stifle confrontation is wrong.

Finally, he asked for a party with a human face, errors, and passions, "in which a militant will not be looked upon as a cog in a big machine, but as a human being who is useful because of what he thinks, says, and does."

Garzon, who resigned from the UP leadership but continues to act as a member of the PC and UP rank and file, is now faced with the challenge of pushing forth a broad-based and pluralistic movement, advocating a mixed economy and a negotiated solution to the armed conflict and disavows the violent role of the guerrillas.

[Arrazola] Why was the movement born?

[Garzon] To look for ways to end the manifestations of violence, to present to the country a socialist option within the framework of democracy, and to be an alternative for governing. Our project is more than an electoral alliance, but we do not rule out generating the required space to win mayoralties and slots in Congress and in the municipal councils. The idea is to present ourselves in the 1992 and 1994 races as a political fact in order to do away with the bipartisanship and end the defeat syndrome which has constantly plagued the left wing.

[Arrazola] The left wing has traditionally applauded the guerrilla struggle. Are you now virtually disavowing it?

[Garzon] What happens is that humankind has not found any method other than dialogue to settle conflicts. Large guerrilla and leftist sectors have concluded that the war has no future. If the guerrillas placed greater emphasis on political initiatives, dialogue, and a willingness to establish peace, rather than on the planning of new and painful military actions, they would play a more important role.

This is based on the assumption that the PC must open a candid debate with the insurgency movement.

[Arrazola] Yet there is still great resistance against accepting what you are saying.

[Garzon] They are saying one thing in the open and another internally. The truth is that war has ceased to be an option to solve problems.

[Arrazola] Do you believe that the conditions are in place for the rebel forces to return to civilian life?

[Garzon] There is no question that the government, the Armed Forces, the political parties, and the insurgents must first change their attitude. Peace does not depend only on the guerrillas. I think that one of the steps to achieve this would be for the government to promote a dialogue between the military and the civilian population.

[Arrazola] In other words, the new movement does not emphatically condemn the guerrillas?

[Garzon] The problem lies in what Colombian society wants, and that is why we merged and now advocate a negotiated solution. In no way can we advocate policies that are unclear or that lack credibility.

[Arrazola] What then is the true proposal to end the armed conflict in Colombia?

[Garzon] To discuss a peace proposal starting from the viewpoint that peace cannot be used as a tactic for war, but must develop democracy. The talks would take place between the government and the guerrillas, provided there is a true willingness by the parties. In addition, a clear timetable with reciprocal conditions would need to be outlined.

[Arrazola] That is as far as the guerrillas are concerned. What do you propose for the drug trafficking problem?

[Garzon] It cannot be resolved militarily. Instead, it must be handled thorough politics and the economy; in other words, by substituting something else for the coca crop. In the event there is a dialogue, it should be out in the open, with society setting the conditions, and based on accepting the fact that drug trafficking is a reality.

[Arrazola] When several members of the UP and the PC leadership, including yourself, decided to resign from your posts and encourage the consolidation of the new movement, did you really put Marxist-Leninist ideology aside?

[Garzon] It is a mistake to accept this ideology as rigid and dogmatic principles that include theoretical formulas to resolve conflicts. Our movement is pluralistic, and that is a discussion we must leave to the leftist leaders. We are thinking of the country, looking for elements of agreement on the way we look at life and the way we incorporate the processes and resolve them.

[Arrazola] What happens with the PC then?

[Garzon] If the PC was faithful to its theories and what was discussed at the 15th Congress, it would join our movement. We do not waste time with small things such as job appointments within the organization. The idea is to work it all out with the UP and communist rank and file.

[Arrazola] What would you say if the PC and the new UP leadership decided to join the movement?

[Garzon] We would welcome them, but the important thing is that they accept our principles.

* Samper, Pastrana Likely Candidates in 1994

90SM0008E Bogota SEMANA in Spanish
13 Mar 90 p 34

[Text] Although it may seem premature to speak of what can happen in politics in the future, when the presidential election of 1990 has not yet taken place, it is clear that the Colombian people live on intrigue. There is no shortage of those who are already speculating on what the presidential contest will look like in 1994. Among political observers there seems to be agreement that, as things look now, it is not impossible that this contest will be between Ernesto Samper, a liberal, and Andres Pastrana, a conservative. Those two political personalities, as similar as two peas in a pod, could figure in one of the most interesting presidential elections for a long time.

At first glance one might think that the political career of Ernesto Samper is not his best card if you keep in mind that during the few years which he has spent in political life he has suffered an impressive number of defeats. In 1982, as campaign director of Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, he was badly defeated in second place on his party's Senate list, despite his having been the key man in the preparation of the lists. In 1988, as an ally of Galan, he decided to support Carlos Ossa for the position of mayor of Bogota. Not only did Andres Pastrana get more votes than Carlos Ossa, but so did Juan Martin Caicedo as well. And on 11 March he lost by a four to one margin against Cesar Gaviria who, barely 1 year ago, was just another member of Congress whom Samper himself asked to support his candidacy.

The truth is that Samper has been losing ground to the view that he is not a serious candidate. For the combination of populist and "manager of candidates" did not reflect what the voters wanted in 1990.

Nevertheless, despite this most recent setback, Samper is far from having disappeared from the political scene. His career has been like a yo-yo with ups and downs. After each defeat he has had a triumph. His alliance with Cesar Gaviria ensures him a cabinet portfolio—probably that of minister of foreign affairs—and a number of other seats for his group. His friends support him as strongly in good times as in bad, and he has many friends.

Some people might think that in 1994 new figures like Juan Martin Caicedo, the biggest individual winner in the elections of 11 March, after Cesar Gaviria, or veterans like Carlos Lemos Simmonds, with a real following, will be treading on his heels. However, the truth is that for the election of 1994 Ernesto Samper will attract capable followers with his yellow T-shirt.

The position of Andres Pastrana in the conservative movement is that of a leader whom the years are passing by. However, his star is not declining. From the beginning of his political career at age 16 until the present, when he is serving his term as mayor of Bogota, the man has kept up. His personal prestige is so much greater than that of his party that, although he is only 35, there is no

way in which he will not be considered in 1994. For as has been said again and again, the only possibility which the conservatives have of winning the presidency is for the candidate to get more votes than his party does. The last to meet that requirement was Belisario Betancur, and the only one to meet it at present is Andres Pastrana, who has already proved this in the election for mayor of Bogota.

The surprisingly independent way in which the voters cast their ballots on 11 March makes it clear that in the future the people are going to choose between individuals rather than between political parties. And it is on the basis of these considerations that those who are making forecasts now regarding a two-man race in 1994 are beginning to concentrate their attention on Ernesto Samper and Andres Pastrana, and are placing their bets that way, as well.

* Need To Resume Coffee Pact Said Less Urgent

90SM0008D Bogota SEMANA in Spanish
13 Mar 90 pp 48-49

[Excerpts] A popular saying states that what is good is twice as nice if it is short. Nevertheless, that expression does not always turn out to be true. To prove this, it is enough to look at what happened to the international coffee market. When Colombians thought that the lower prices ruling in the coffee market during the last half of 1989 were a thing of the past, the market gave them a surprise. On 9 March a simple announcement from Brazil was enough to wipe out much of the increase in prices recorded during the immediately preceding days.

That fact served to confirm the view that the international coffee market is still exposed to sharp ups and downs. Although in general the situation is now much calmer than it was a few months ago, uncertainty continues to be the predominant note, due to the volatility of a market whose direction changes with the circulation of a simple rumor or a statement made by a government.

The certainty that the coffee market is now much stronger than it was at the end of 1989 is one source of consolation. That observation is based on several facts. On the side of the producers the market has been feeling the impact of what happened in the Central American countries, which decided to sell their harvest before the end of the year. This factor considerably reduced the supply of mild coffees during the first few months of 1990. To that situation was added errors like that made by Mexico, which sold more coffee than it had and in the last few days has had to purchase between 250,000 and 500,000 sacks of coffee to meet its commitments. These considerations have additional factors, such as public order problems in the Ivory Coast and speculation on the Colombian coffee harvest. All of that has had a particular influence on the price of mild coffees, the variety most subject to price fluctuations in the market.

However, the determining factor of what has happened in the last few days was Brazil's attitude. The largest producer of coffee in the world had halted sales of coffee since the end of 1989, in view of the expectations resulting from the election of Fernando Collor de Mello as president. Brazilian exporters say that the current foreign exchange policy is not favorable to them and, therefore, they are waiting for what may happen when the new government takes office. Uncertainty about the real size of coffee stocks in Brazil was what caused the price decline of 9 March, when that country announced that it was going to return to the market. Nevertheless, no one has a clear view of how great the impact is going to be. For that reason there were projections to satisfy all expectations among the specialists in New York.

What certainly seems to be true is that within a few months the Brazilian situation is going to exert pressure for a rise in coffee prices. The projections for the coffee harvest in 1990 are about 24 million sacks, compared to the figure of 34 million sacks originally forecast. Although the causes are not clear, it is rumored that 20 percent of the Brazilian coffee plantations are now planted to other crops. This circumstance suggests that in the future world overproduction of coffee is not going to be as great as was expected.

On the demand side there is also good news. Well-informed sources believe that the changes in Eastern Europe will result in a substantial increase in the consumption of mild coffees. To that is added the fact that surveys show that for the first time in more than a decade coffee consumption in the United States increased in 1989. Finally, it is estimated that the inventories held by coffee-roasting companies are not very high. Winter in the countries of the Northern hemisphere has been quite cold and, consequently, people have drunk more coffee than usual.

Considerations like the foregoing have been enough to calm interested parties who on 9 March saw the price of Colombian coffee return to a level of about $1 per pound. Calculations which have been made suggest that, although it is probable that the rising trend will stop, it is also practically certain that, at least during 1990, the price will not return to the level of about $0.70 per pound recorded in October 1988.

The increase of about 40 percent in international coffee prices has had an impact on two key considerations. On the one hand the urgent need previously felt by the producing countries to pressure the United States for a return to the International Coffee Agreement seems to have declined. Independently of whether this is good or bad over the long run, it is clear that, as of now, no one has any enthusiasm about reinstituting the agreement. Perhaps for that reason a document issued by the U.S. Government on an eventual International Coffee Agreement appeared a few days ago but did not attract much attention. Even Colombia, which has officially defended this idea, no longer gives the impression of being in much of a hurry, in part because the country has defended itself successfully in the turbulent waters of the

free market. As former cabinet minister Roberto Junguito, president of the Coffee Exporters Association, said recently: "It seems to be clear that it is not enough for the country to accept a new agreement, no matter what the cost."

The second important consideration is the handling of the internal coffee price. As will be recalled, this price was adjusted the last time in October 1989, but barely by 5 percent, due to the belief that, with the international coffee agreement in suspense, there was nothing to be done. However, now that the increase in the coffee price has been consolidated, the situation is quite different. [passage omitted] Clearly, everything depends on the extent to which the new sales policy becomes established in the international markets. However, well informed sources insist that the readjustment of the internal price is a fact, due to which everything indicates that with regard to coffee Colombia is finally getting to the bottom of the barrel.

* 1989 GDP Calculated at 3.2 Percent

90SM0008C Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish
11 Mar 90 p 15A

[Article by Luis Alberto Lopera, editor of EL TIEMPO]

[Text] The Gross Domestic Product reached 15 trillion pesos in 1989, about $40.5 billion. However, per capita growth during the 1980's fell to levels as low as they were in the 1950's.

The record of the Colombian economy in 1989 was not as bad as some people expected it to be. The growth of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), for which various figures have been made public, amounted to 3.2 percent in 1989.

This rate which, in any case, will be subject to the usual adjustments, was a little higher than the figure of 3.0 percent, which the government had previously announced.

The performance of the economy was not better due, as is well known, to the uncertainty generated by violence in the last few months of 1989, the fall in the coffee price, the smaller demand for goods and services due to the low purchasing power of the people, and the decline in government investments due to a lack of resources and the need to control inflation.

The preliminary, consolidated figures which the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) announced at the end of last week make clear which sectors of the economy ensured its overall growth.

'Stars'

As happens every year, a few sectors pushed the economy forward. On this occasion the most significant were mining, agriculture, and finance.

For example, the mining sector which, in the middle of the 1980's, was the moving force behind growth because of the El Cerrejon area in La Guajira Province and the "petroleum minibonanza" (the Cano Limon area in Arauca Province), recorded a growth of 10.7 percent.

It grew twice as fast as it did in 1988. It was not higher than that, due to guerrilla attacks on oil pipelines and the difficulties encountered in coal mining. Nevertheless, those conditions were compensated for, in part, by the turnabout in the prices for oil, coal, and ferronickel ore.

The agricultural sector was another one of the "stars" among the various elements of the economy, despite the smaller coffee harvest and the expiration of the world coffee agreement. Taking together agriculture, forestry, hunting, and fishing, the growth of the sector amounted to 4.9 percent in 1989. In 1988 the growth rate was 3.0 percent.

That good result, as the Bank of the Republic and Development has recorded, occurred due to one time reasons, such as the substantial readjustment in the support prices for some agricultural products.

Contrary to all of the previous years in the decade of the 1980's, the financial, insurance, real estate, and company services sector recorded one of the best results in 1989. That was clearly shown in the high profits of banking and insurance during the year.

'The Worst Sectors'

Industry and trade, which play a major role in the determination of GDP, were among the "worst" sectors, although finally they did not have as poor results as some observers expected.

In the course of the meeting of the National Federation of Businessmen (Fenalco) it was stated that during the final months of 1989 industry and trade would have a real growth of zero.

However, it did not happen that way. DANE figures indicate that the manufacturing industry, which makes up one-fifth of GDP, ended 1989 with a growth of 2.3 percent, a result similar to that recorded in 1988.

Meanwhile, trade, which was expected to have a negative growth figure for the year, in fact recorded a growth of 1.2 percent. Nevertheless, this figure was very low, compared to the 4.6 percent figure in 1988.

The record of this sector was poor due to the fall in demand and the high price readjustments which the manufacturing sector had. Secondly, this record was due to the insecurity resulting from the attacks which took place in the last few months of the year, which depressed the figures for tourist activity and recreation by Colombians.

Among the other components of GDP, the construction sector grew by only 1.2 percent. (This involved public

works only, because home construction declined.) Transport and warehousing grew by 3.4 percent, and the electricity, gas, and water sector, which does not account for much in the economy, grew by 4.5 percent.

* Lloreda's Views on Narcoterrorism, Debt

90SM0008B Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish
7 Mar 90 pp 1A, 8A

[Interview with Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo, Social Conservative Party candidate for the presidency, by Edulfo Pena and Sergio Ocampo Madrid, editors of EL TIEMPO; place and date not given; first five paragraphs are authors' introduction]

[Text] He is too intellectual and rarely emotional. Therefore, he is not a good speaker.

By contrast he presents his ideas very well and is a good lecturer before a small group. Cold and distant in the way he deals with people, he is a man who laughs very little. He is not very charismatic.

He believes in numbers, formulas, and programs. All of his thought is set forth in numerical and organized form, with great, internal logic. He is a solid and substantial speaker. He is clear of mind and sure about what he can do as president of Colombia.

All of this is reflected in his immediate surroundings, in his office, in his study, in the very headquarters of his campaign, which has many shades of gray, a great deal of discretion, and a world of silence about it.

He is the product of the special atmosphere of the Cauca Valley, the son of landowners and industrialists. He is a man of tradition and breeding.

[EL TIEMPO] What makes you think that you can be president, with the support of a minority party and facing a united liberal movement?

[Lloreda] Look, things have changed, and party machinery is no longer enough. I have one advantage: With the voter's card many shortcomings can be eliminated. Furthermore, the debate is going to concentrate on continuity or change. All of the liberals, although they try to avoid admitting this, have received benefits from the government. I am the other choice. Finally, you are starting from a dubious assumption: that the Liberal party is united.

[EL TIEMPO] You mention the voter's card as an advantage. It happens that Alvaro Gomez also thinks that this is his advantage, because people must look at his photograph. Gomez is better known than you. Is this not a disadvantage?

[Lloreda] If you had asked me that question 6 months ago, you might have been right. Today the degree of recognition between Dr. Gomez and me is about the same.

[EL TIEMPO] What do you think of the unusual campaign for the presidency which Gomez is making?

[Lloreda] I do not think that he will end up running as a dissident candidate. The PSC [Social Conservative Party] has suffered from persecution, discrimination, and humiliation for 4 years. It is not a party which will lend itself to internal divisions. Furthermore, experience shows that the majority of the conservatives will vote for the official candidate of their party.

[EL TIEMPO] And if he runs, then what?

[Lloreda] Very simply, he will run, and nothing will happen.

[EL TIEMPO] Do you not agree that you need a party machine to be elected president?

[Lloreda] In the presidential elections party machinery does not function. These elections are more of a fringe debate, more of the citizen faced with choices rather than party loyalties. However, above all, I see one prophetic fact. On 11 March there are going to be more liberal votes than on 27 May. It is an elementary matter: the six liberal machines are going to be tired out. Five of them will cease operations on 12 March. It is like the birth of sextuplets, where five die and one survives. That is a drama for any family.

[EL TIEMPO] What is your specific strategy to handle the drug-trafficking problem?

[Lloreda] The fundamental question is having definite points of view. First, Colombia cannot continue demanding that the war against the drug trade go on in a way which interests the United States.

At this point there is a specific proposal from "The Extraditables": surrender. In war the winner imposes the conditions, and the only thing on which we can agree is to try them here. I have raised the possibility of making use of a military court martial to try them. The other precondition is that they must dismantle their apparatus for producing drugs and shipping them abroad.

[EL TIEMPO] What means would be used by your government to facilitate the drug traffickers' surrender?

[Lloreda] I would have to issue two decrees declaring a state of siege. One of them would eliminate extradition, and the other would transfer to a military court martial jurisdictional authority to try certain crimes: terrorism, drug trafficking, massacres, kidnappings, etc.

[EL TIEMPO] And what do you think of the legalization of narcotics?

[Lloreda] Colombia cannot do this unilaterally. Such action would have serious, international repercussions. I think that legalization is the ultimate solution, but the North Americans are going to be very slow to reach that point.

[EL TIEMPO] These days people talk about the so-called ability of the liberals to govern. What do you think of that?

[Lloreda] I do not know why they use so diplomatic a term for such a shameful act. In plain language it means "sharing the pork."

[EL TIEMPO] One of the planks in your platform is housing. Do you have an objective solution for the problem of housing in Colombia?

[Lloreda] Yes. It involves the distribution by law of lots of land with minimum services provided to each lot, so that the people can build their own houses on them. It amounts to providing 200,000 such lots for this program of people's housing. There could be more such lots made available, but I have limited myself to developing a realistic plan. We are going to use funds from the ICT [Territorial Credit Institute] derived from the Value Added Tax on cement, which will generate about 70 billion pesos annually.

Each beneficiary under this program would receive a loan of 600,000 pesos (the total value of the lot) to pay back, without interest, in 10 years. There will also be a plan to finance construction materials.

[EL TIEMPO] Is this a kind of program for building shacks for the poor?

[Lloreda] Building shacks is what is going on today in all of the cities in the country. This is a program to compete with shack building, by setting up organized developments in appropriate places where public services can be provided without the enormous costs involved today. The only thing which the poor would not have immediately would be paved streets.

[EL TIEMPO] Would you change the UPAC [Constant Purchasing Power Unit] system to resolve the present crisis?

[Lloreda] I am not going to abolish the UPAC system. I would change it so that for those making very high incomes the interest would be increased a little. Furthermore, I would distinguish between an ordinary UPAC and a social UPAC.

I would ensure that the small losses under the social UPAC program would be compensated for by the earnings under the other system. I would orient the program, to some extent, to favor housing with a social component.

[EL TIEMPO] What would be the essence of your economic program?

[Lloreda] First, to create general conditions in the country which facilitate economic development. I propose to double exports in 4 years. This is the central point of an economic program aimed at achieving social objectives, particularly in terms of better paying jobs.

On the other hand I would seek a real opening up of the economy. What the government has done until now is a simple caricature of this idea. Everyone knows that the measures which the government has adopted are the result of international pressures and are aimed at satisfying the World Bank and the IMF. The government has called a simple change in the foreign trade system an opening up of the economy.

[EL TIEMPO] Do you advocate the country's contracting further foreign debt?

[Lloreda] The country can contract more foreign debt. If this debt is used exclusively for repaying the previous debt, the country will go bankrupt. Yes, it will be necessary to renegotiate with the private banks new periods for repayment and new rates of interest for the present debt. It is possible to do this without any need of conflict. And with the multilateral organizations with which we definitely cannot negotiate, we need to reestablish a stable and adequate flow of resources. With foreign governmental agencies we need to revise the policies and conditions concerning payment.

[EL TIEMPO] The debt, and particularly that of public bodies, directly affects the people, because of the increase in charges for services. What is President Lloreda going to do with so specific a problem?

[Lloreda] First, ensure good financial management. Secondly, arrange for public companies providing services to permit the users to purchase shares in these companies. For this purpose the users could earmark one-third of what they pay in service charges. Thirdly, good administration.

[EL TIEMPO] Do you advocate that users of these services become shareholders of the companies?

[Lloreda] Yes. In this way the companies will be turned into mixed enterprises, the administration will be improved, and many improper practices will be eliminated.

[EL TIEMPO] Well, in any case, you have not answered our question on the problem of service charges.

[Lloreda] Well, to the extent that the company is in better financial condition those charges will be reduced.

[EL TIEMPO] Would you undertake a peace process similar to that of Belisario Betancur?

[Lloreda] In 1982 the guerrilla movements had a 50-percent level of acceptance by the people of this country. In 1986 that level of acceptance amounted to only 8 percent. Betancur won a political battle against the guerrillas.

President Barco could not win such battles because he had no policies.

[EL TIEMPO] Well, what would Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo do?

[Lloreda] I would undertake a process of reconciliation for 1 year, during which a national constituent assembly would meet to set out the political conditions of demobilization.

[EL TIEMPO] Over the past 4 years you and your party have suffered from being in the opposition and have protested at the lack of constitutional guarantees. What guarantees would President Lloreda extend to the other political parties?

[Lloreda] This is the second time that I have had to live in the opposition. And this is a good experience, as it makes it possible to look at the country from another aspect. It is one thing to see the country from the point of view of the governnment and quite another to see it from the outside. In that way you can get a better appreciation of the tremendous injustices which exist.

[EL TIEMPO] And did you have to be in the opposition to be able to describe injustice?

[Lloreda] I refer to political injustice. In Colombia the national budget plays a definitive role in politics and not only for those in the legislature. The state finances the campaigns of the friends of the government.

True democracy demands three fundamental things: There must be labor stability and a functioning administration, fiscal and moral control of independent officials, and equitable access to the official communications media.

[EL TIEMPO] You are talking more like a conservative who is not in the government than as an opposition figure. For example, you have not mentioned protecting the lives of members of the UP [Patriotic Union]. What will you do to protect the lives of figures in the Colombian Left?

[Lloreda] I would break up the groups of murderers who are killing them. The problem is that all of those crimes have gone unpunished. In 1989 there were 5,750 murders. If you ask how many of those murder cases were solved, the answer is appalling.

[EL TIEMPO] But you are speaking in the abstract. The Patriotic Union does not say that "shadowy forces" or the "enemies of democracy" are killing its leaders. They speak of Harold Bedoya and Gil Colorado, who are generals in the armed forces. So?

[Lloreda] If there are generals in the armed forces who are committing those crimes, I will dismiss them from office, I will have them tried for their actions, and I will punish them. The Army must protect all citizens who obey the law.

*** Editorial on Significance of Seventh Ballot**

90SM0008A Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish
11 Mar 90 p 5A

[Editorial by D'Artagnan]

[Text] This is a country in a state of continuing evolution. When we returned to it after an absence of 2 weeks, there were many matters which had come up in this short period of time. For example, there is the question of the seventh ballot, which has brought out a broad range of political opinion of a kind which has not been expressed for a long time.

What is involved in the seventh ballot question? Many things. In the first place, it involves the resurgence of the student movement which, for a long period of time, remained on the sidelines of national political life, protected by a skepticism which most often took the form of guerrilla movements and hostile trade union activism. For many years Colombian students had placed themselves in the rear ranks of society, their arms crossed, and, in more than a few cases, sought escape from crude reality in music and drugs. They were part of the silent majorities while some of their spokespersons became involved in other kinds of struggle, generally armed. These efforts had results as frustrating as those of other students who prefered to remain silent and indifferent.

Nevertheless, on the day when Galan was assassinated, the spark of a more-than-justified rebellion in the consciences of different student groups was again ignited. Spontaneously, they joined in the March of Silence to protest the death of the murdered leader and to support his ideas, thus tending to dignify politics and to strengthen democracy. Therefore, their banners calling for a moral restoration have met with an impressive degree of acceptance and have had the support of all the media and even that of prospective candidates and the announced candidates. The students are a viable force. They are on the road to a good objective. They are necessary, if we are concerned with saving Colombia. And they are not against the established order or the constitution. Rather, they are against the vices and errors which are undermining the validity of the system. Basically, what they seek is to modernize and clean up our institutions.

How successful will the seventh ballot be in today's elections? No one knows. Furthermore, it is thought that it may be very relative, since it involves the question of public opinion. The ballot is not the right foundation on which the will of the people may take form and not wind up scattered along the rough paths of the electoral machine and of ignorance.

The seventh ballot has a clear purpose: to authorize the convocation of a constituent assembly so that the next president—or even the present chief executive, if he dares to do so—could reform the constitution which the previous congress did not allow to be amended. The changes required in this area as so numerous and so overwhelming: abolish the fixers in all public institutions, so that they will not continue to rob the public; punish absenteeism; expedite the process for approving laws; transform the Office of the Controller General, so that it will regain its position as a clean and efficient

public body; strengthen the administration of justice to root out the problem of people who ignore the laws; and at the same time, change the harmful system of coopting judges in the courts. In short, everything which Congress did not do, because it did not wish to do it. The questionable, personal interests of the members of Congress prevailed over the common good.

Therefore, it would be little less than ironic if in today's elections the party machines win, with their rotten, self-serving smell of captive votes which impair the interests of all of us. Our interests are contained in the seventh ballot which, nevertheless, does not have the support of an adequate organization to direct that will for change with a complete guarantee of success.

Another and no less interesting paradox may also appear. That is, that candidates like Morales Ballesteros throughout the country would win and that the seventh ballot—the guillotine for people like Morales Ballesteros—would get enough support to show that a significant proportion of the country is calling for a basic, juridical change from its next leaders.

If that happens—and I hope that it will—the least that we voters can hope for is that, when a national constituent assembly meets in the near future, people who win in today's legislative elections will not be members of it. That would be the minimum, desirable outcome, and the most logical. What would a constituent assembly be if it were made up, as the incoming Congress will certainly be, of those who, in the name of our democracy, have perverted political life to the point of making it a worthless form of activity?

Today is a crucial day for those of us citizens who wish to save Colombia. This objective may appear rather pretentious. However, it is very clear that, in addition to marking the seventh ballot and depositing it in the ballot boxes, we voters act to save our country from the hands of mediocre candidates, carefully choosing from the lists of candidates for elective bodies. We can do this by electing the most capable and honest, a worn out and hackneyed phrase but no less correct for all of that. The capable and honest candidates may be few, by comparison with the alarming proliferation of undesirable people on the lists of candidates for public bodies.

The vote is secret. Do not sell your conscience. Vote with your head, not your heart, thinking of the future. Today must be something more than an electoral festival. After all, we live in the most violent country in the world, and bold, political solutions coming from the will of the people, as reflected in the ballot box, are needed to stop that kind of barbarism. Forward, Colombia!

Ecuador

ELN Releases Kidnapped Spanish Businessman

PA1604151090 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1234 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] A mysterious fog surrounds the release of Pablo Martin Berrocal, a Spanish citizen engaged in the bullfighting business, who yesterday emerged safe and sound after eight months in captivity.

According to the Spanish press, Martin Berrocal's relatives paid a sum equivalent to $1 million for his release. He was freed in Quito by a commando unit of the Colombian National Liberation Army [ELN].

This information contradicts previous reports published in Quito and in Colombia, which stated that about $9 million or [number indistinct] million pesetas were paid for Martin Berrocal's release.

The Spanish press stated that the ransom paid was not more than 100 million pesetas, or, in other words, $1 million.

Nevertheless, it has been fully confirmed that members of the Colombian ELN guerrilla group were responsible for kidnapping Martin Berrocal, a Spanish businessman linked to bullfighting and transportation in Quito, Ecuador.

ELN members drove Martin Berrocal to downtown Quito and released him near the bullfighting ring he owns, which is also in the neighborhood where he was kidnapped on 9 August of last year.

Relatives of Martin Berrocal traveled to Quito last week, shortly after they learned of his pending release.

There had been intensive contacts with the ELN. Apparently the rumors that circulated in Spain, four to five months ago, of his relatives paying a ransom of approximately $8 million, delayed his release. However, it has now been learned that Martin Berrocal's relatives did not pay that sum, as had been reported by the Spanish press.

Peru

Vargas Llosa Decides To Participate in Runoff

PY1704013490 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0102 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Text] Lima, 16 Apr (EFE)—Novelist Mario Vargas LLosa today announced his decision to participate in a runoff election with Alberto Fujimori, a man of Japanese descent, who placed second in the 8 April election. Vargas Llosa, who it was believed a week ago intended to withdraw from the runoff, said in a communique: "I will participate in the runoff election to champion the reforms our country needs."

According to unofficial projections, Vargas Llosa obtained 30 percent of the votes, compared with Fujimori's 29 percent, far from the absolute majority required by the Peruvian Constitution to be elected in the first round.

Issues Communique on Second Round

PA1704022490 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0130 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Communique issued by Mario Vargas Llosa, presidential candidate for the Democratic Front, in Lima on 16 April—read by announcer]

[Text] On 8 April, the Peruvian people voted by majority for the option of a change in our fatherland, which was embodied by independent leaders. Interpreting two-thirds of the electorate's clear desire, I was prepared to initiate a dialogue with Engineer Alberto Fujimori to avoid for Peru the difficulties and delays of a second round of elections at a time when we are facing a serious national crisis. Despite having won the first round, I was willing to withdraw from the second round as a solution that would be good for Peru.

Our Constitution requires the people to choose from the two alternatives. I will participate in the second round to continue struggling for the reforms that our country needs, with full conviction and without betraying the millions of compatriots who voted for me.

We have been working for this change for over two years with the cooperation of independents and capable technicians, and with the conviction that this is the only path that will enable us to overcome backwardness and poverty. I trust that in this phase our debates will be clean and will rise to the occasion, so that Peru can be the winner; that ours will be a sincere and open comparison of proposals and teams, which should yield the elements of judgement that will allow the Peruvian electorate to vote conscientiously, giving the next government not only history, but the power to govern.

Lima, 16 April 1990

Fujimori Ill; Suspends Scheduled News Conference

PY1704020290 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Alberto Fujimori, presidential candidate for Change 90, has suspended the news conference scheduled for this afternoon to announce his government plan because he is suffering from acute food poisoning. Mrs. Susana Fujimori announced the suspension to an impressive throng of reporters gathered at the Crillon Hotel.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] When will it be held, Madam?

[Susana Fujimori] As soon as possible, perhaps tomorrow.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct].

[Susana Fujimori] He is completely poisoned. He ate cod fish. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Guyana

PPP's Jagan To Lobby in U.S. for Free Elections

FL1604143290 Bridgetown CANA in English 1605 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 15, CANA—Guyana's minority leader Dr. Cheddi Jagan of the People's Progressive Party (PPP) leaves on Monday [16 April] for a series of engagements in the United States, the PPP-linked "MIRROR" newspaper said on Sunday. The paper said that Jagan intends to lobby U.S. congressmen and senators and organisations such as the Institute of Policy Studies, the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, and the World Committee for Democracy in Guyana on the question of free and fair elections in Guyana. He will also speak at a number of American universities.

The MIRROR quoted Jagan as denying reports published earlier by "NEW NATION", official organ of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC), that he will be meeting with U.S. President George Bush while in the United States.

"I would consider it an honour to meet with President Bush and other American leaders to discuss matters of mutual concern to our peoples. I must say, however, that I have not received an invitation to have an audience with the American President and I have never said I did," MIRROR quoted Jagan, an American trained dentist, as saying.

Hoyte Cites Examples of Foreign 'Meddling'

FL1604152390 Bridgetown CANA in English 1934 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 15, CANA—Guyana's President Desmond Hoyte says foreigners are meddling in Guyana's internal affairs and are giving financial support to the political activities of some groups.

"We cannot at this time afford to be complacent, for we in this country face a clear and present danger. All kinds of meddlers want to insinuate themselves into our internal affairs and their numbers are increasing," Hoyte told the 27th annual general meeting of the Consultative Association of Guyanese Industry (CAGI).

The president's allegations come days before minority leader Dr. Cheddi Jagan of the Marxist-Leninist People's Progressive Party leaves here for the United States where he says he will be lobbying American congressmen and senators as well as a number of U.S. organisations on the question of free and fair elections in Guyana.

With national elections now less than a year away and the opposition political parties and some sections of the local media stepping up their campaign for electoral

reforms and summoning the assistance of external personalities and organisations, the ruling People's National Congress [PNC] seems to have launched a counter-offensive.

NEW NATION, official organ of the PNC recently published what it said were extracts taken from a letter sent last year by Nanda Kishore Gopaul, the then treasurer of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Guyana [FITUG] to Oxfam-Canada and other agencies soliciting money for FITUG.

According to the published extract, Gopaul who is now a co-president of the Guyana Human Rights Association [GHRA], indicated that the GHRA had offered to facilitate the transfer of funds to FITUG. He had also stated a GHRA account in New York to which all monies should be paid.

Hoyte told members of the local employers' organisation that while reading one of their brochures his attention was arrested by a section which stated that "above all, the association guards most jealously.... the freedom to run its affairs without outside interference or control."

He said he believed that such freedom from outside interference was vital to the proper pursuit of the association's objectives and the successful discharge of its responsibilities.

"The capacity of an organisation to realise its true potential, just like the capacity of an individual, cannot be separated from certain attitudes which include self-respect and a sense of pride and dignity. It is the same with a sovereign state," Hoyte said.